

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:534
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
SEEPAGE OF WATER FROM CANALS
Singh Shri Raj Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large amount of water is lost by seepage from the unlined canals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated loss of water by the seepage from the unlined canals;
- (c) whether any scheme/programme has been taken up to address this issue and if so, the details thereof along with funds made available and utilised for the purpose, during the last two years and the current year, scheme/programme-wise along with the achievements made thereunder; and
- (d) the details of the other measures taken by the Government for prevention of seepage of water from canals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 534 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.08.2014 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING SEEPAGE OF WATER FROM CANALS

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The amount of water lost due to seepage from unlined canals varies widely with the extent and type of lining of canals, type of soil through which, the canal system passes and status of operation and maintenance of canals. It may go up to even 40% to 45% of water supplied at the head of canal.

(c) Irrigation development being a State subject, water resources are planned and executed by the respective State Governments from their own resources as per their own requirements and priority of works. Lining of canal is being undertaken for prevention of seepage in general; the State Governments address the specific problems of canal seepage through Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) of Govt. of India. An amount of about Rs.2699 crore has been released for 40 ERM projects, from the inception of ERM programme up to March, 2014.

(d) On the recommendations of Planning Commission, the Government has already released Rs.100 crore as additional Central assistance to Punjab for the project for lining of the Rajasthan Feeder Canal and Sirhind Feeder Canal.