

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:524

ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH;DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of allocations made for water resources and telecommunications during the Ninth and the Tenth Five Year Plans;
- (b) whether the allocation made for water resources is not adequate;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) Whether the Government propose to review and re-allocate more realistic amount to water resources giving priority to inter linking of rivers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) : The approved outlay for water resources and telecommunications in the Ninth & Tenth Five Year Plans are as under:

Sector	Ninth Plan	Tenth Plan (Rs. crores)
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Telecommunications	46442.04#	86984\$
Water Resources	2291.25	3600

GBS 44.04

\$ GBS 1500

@ actual allocation during Ninth Plan on the basis of Annual Plan approved outlay was Rs. 84783.90 crores.

(b) & (c) :Water being a State subject, the planning, funding, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation and flood control projects are done by the State Governments themselves as per their own priorities and the Central assistance to the States is given in the form of block loans and grants and is not tied to any sector. The expenditure incurred by the State Governments on irrigation, flood control and command area development in the Ninth Plan and the outlay for the Tenth Plan for these sectors are Rs. 61002.05 crores and Rs.92143.53 crores respectively. The Central sector outlay for water resources, which is fully in the form of gross budgetary support is mainly for data collection, ground water exploration, R&D, flood forecasting, monitoring, investigations and centrally sponsored schemes. The Tenth Plan Central sector outlay for water resources has a 57% step up over the Ninth Plan outlay and almost a 100% step up over the Ninth Plan expenditure of Rs.1845 crores. The Central Govt. is also assisting the States since the Ninth Plan for early completion of on-going irrigation projects through the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. Till March 2003, Rs. 11541.73 crores has been released, under the programme over and above the Central sector outlay.

(d) to (f) : The Central Government has set up a Task Force on 13.12.2002 under the Chairmanship of Shri Suresh Prabhu, Member of Parliament, on interlinking of rivers to bring about a consensus among States, provide guidance on nature of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding. In the Action Plan I submitted by the Task Force on 30.4.2003, it has been indicated that the feasibility reports for all the 30 links is planned to be completed by December 2005 and the detailed project reports for all acceptable links by December 2006. The firm estimate of cost of interlinks proposals will become available only on completion of the DPRs. The Ministry of Water Resources have allocated Rs.85 crores in the Tenth Plan for the National Water Development Agency for investigation work on interlinking of rivers. For 2003-04, the approved outlay of the Ministry of Water Resources has been stepped up by Rs.4 crores to support the Task Force on interlinking of rivers.