

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:124

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006

SHORTCOMINGS IN PROGRAMMES FOR IRRIGATION FACILITIES

Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed certain shortcomings in the implementation of programmes drawn up for creation of irrigation facilities as reported in Dainik Jagran dated December 12, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is carrying out/has carried out review of the programmes for the remaining part of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF STARRED QUESTION No.+124 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.2.2006 REGARDING SHORTCOMINGS IN PROGRAMMES FOR IRRIGATION FACILITIES

(a)&(b) There are news items in Lucknow, Bhopal and Patna editions of Dainik Jagran dated 12th December 2005 about Irrigation Projects in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar respectively. The news items cover information on the following :

a. Expenditure on maintenance of canal system off-taking from Ganga and related issues.

b. Preparation of Schemes by Uttar Pradesh Government for lining of Eastern Yamuna Canal, Lower Ganga Canal, Sarda and Gandak Canals.

c. Completion of Upper Wainganga, Urmil, and Banjar Projects of Madhya Pradesh.

d. Decision of Madhya Pradesh Government to complete Bansagar, Bariarpur, Gulab Sagar, Mahi (Mahan), Bawanthadi, Mahi Sindh (Stage-I) and Sindh (Stage-II) major projects in next 3 years.

e. Taking up of the World Bank assisted Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project.

f. Taking up of the PENCH Multi-purpose Project of Chhindwara district by Madhya Pradesh Government.

g. The strategy of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for construction and maintenance of 5 new Irrigation Projects in each of the Legislative Assembly constituency.

h. Stoppage of the work on Punpun embankment in Bihar.

There is also a reference about the limitations in respect of financial resources.

(c) & (d) Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan has been carried out by the Planning Commission. Important irrigation related issues have been highlighted in the Mid Term Appraisal. The National Development Council met under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 27th & 28th June, 2005 to consider the Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan and recognizing the fact that agriculture and irrigation have been a common theme in the interventions of the Chief Ministers, and that enhancing investments in irrigation has emerged as common concerns, the National Development Council agreed to form a Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Minister for Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on "Agriculture and Related Issues". The Sub-Committee held its first meeting on 4th October, 2005 and has constituted six Working Groups including a Working Group on "Irrigation including Minor Irrigation" under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister of Maharashtra. The first meeting of the Working Group has been held on 26th December, 2005.

(e) Does not arise.