

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2370  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006  
CONSTRUCTION OF NARMADA MAIN CANAL IN GUJARAT  
Varma Shri Ratilal Kalidas

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether out of a total stretch of 458 kms. of Narmada Main Canal in Gujarat, construction work on 101 kms. remains incomplete for paucity of funds;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has received request for additional funds to ensure completion of the aforesaid part of the canal in the State; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide the required assistance to the State Government?

**Answer**

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

(a) Out of a total stretch of 458 kilometre (KM) of Narmada Main Canal, construction work upto the reach of 357 KM has been completed and the work in the remaining reach of 101 km is in progress. The State Government of Gujarat has not reported paucity of funds as the reason for not completing the construction of Narmada Main Canal.

(b) & (c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government has been providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years as per the guidelines of the Programme. The irrigation component of Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat has been receiving CLA under AIBP and an amount of Rs. 4302.75 crore has been released to the State Government of Gujarat for this project as CLA/grant upto February, 2006.