

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3674
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
IRRIGATION POTENTIAL
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme has not lived up to its potential;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether CAG report has revealed that 24 States have spent Rs. 13,823 crore from 1996-2003 but no irrigation potential has been created;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) by when the target of irrigation potential would be achieved?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (e) The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) was launched in 1996-97 for expeditious completion of major/medium on-going irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of completion. With the help of this programme 29 projects have already been completed upto March, 2004, out of 181 irrigation projects receiving Central Loan Assistance (CLA). The report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) for the year ended March, 2003 has mentioned that 24 States have spent Rs. 13,823 crore from 1996-2003. The report also mentions that irrigation potential of 2,839.75 thousand hectare was created during the said period under AIBP. The achievement of the target creation of irrigation potential is dependent upon the timely completion of the projects which are now scheduled for completion in 3-4 years.