

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:112

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007

ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to sanction additional funds for extending irrigation facilities during the remaining period of the Tenth Plan;
- (b) if so, the total amount proposed to be spent thereon;
- (c) whether the major irrigation projects which were proposed to be completed in 2005-06, have been completed;
- (d) if not, the estimated total cost escalation on such projects;
- (e) whether the amount sanctioned to the States for the irrigation projects is being utilized properly; and
- (f) whether the Government has made any assessment in regard to the irrigation schemes formulated by the States particularly that of the Vidarbha region of Marashtra?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) : An amount of Rs.2098.33 crore has been provided by the Planning Commission as grant for release of funds under AIBP (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme) to the States during 2006-07. Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources as per their own priorities.

Concerned with the delay in completion of the irrigation projects, the Government of India provided CLA/Grant of Rs. 19437.8837 crore under AIBP up to March,2006 for completion of major, medium and minor irrigation projects. The grant released during current year till date is Rs 1160.5972 crore. Out of ultimate irrigation potential of 83.47 lakh hectare of major and medium irrigation projects included in AIBP, potential created up to March 2006 is 40.40 lakh hectare. The irrigation potential created through Minor Irrigation Schemes up to March 2006 is 1.53 lakh hectare.

The AIBP places importance to the projects completed in a particular time frame as well as for creation of irrigation potential. Of the 200 Major and Medium irrigation projects that were provided assistance under AIBP, 50 Major/ Medium and out of 5562 Surface Minor Irrigation (MI) Schemes, 4187 Surface MI Schemes have been completed up to March 2006.

In order to ensure proper utilization of funds in the form of grant released by central Government, the grant is released in two installments during the year for a project. Subsequent grant is released only after receiving utilization certificate of grant released earlier duly signed by Secretary in charge of Irrigation/ Water Resources Department of the respective State Government.

As per latest assessment made, there were 166 Major, 222 Medium and 89 Extension, Renovation and Modernization totaling to 477 ongoing projects which are likely to spill over to Eleventh Plan. Of these, 53 Major, 83 Medium and 3 ERM totaling to 139 projects are in Maharashtra State.