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Title: Need to conduct CBI inquiry into embezzlement of funds in irrigation projects in Assam.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (GUWAHATI): Sir, hon. Prime Minister has given thrust in a big way for the overall development of agricultural produce. We know that irrigation is a must for good crops.

Huge amounts of funds are directed to Assam for development of irrigation projects, especially under AIBP, in the ratio of 90:10. Thousands of crores had been spent in irrigation, but there is no result at all.

Only one or two irrigation schemes are workable, that too partially. One such scheme, which I want to mention here, is Champawati Irrigation Project. It was started 30 years back and nearly Rs. 150 crore have been spent. In this amount, 75 per cent have come from the Central Government. There are lakhs of farmers who, instead of getting water, are facing lot of problems there.

In this connection, I would like to mention here that the State Government did not submit expenditure receipts, which it is supposed to submit annually, to the Central Government. It is reported that expenditure accounts amounting to Rs. 12,000 crore till 2013-14, could not be submitted by the Government of Assam. Lakhs of farmers are suffering, but no irrigation project has been completed.

Sir, I appeal to you and also demand, through you, that a proper CBI inquiry should be conducted into embezzlement of funds in this regard.

Thank you.