

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a state subject, the irrigation projects are planned, executed, funded by State Governments from their own resources and as per their priorities. The Union Government provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the States as per guidelines for completion of ongoing projects. Preferential funding to extent of 90% of the project cost is provided under AIBP to the projects benefiting Drought Prone Area (DPAP), tribal areas and projects in special category states. The Special Category States covers the North Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Uttaranchal. The projects in the undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) districts of Orissa also treated at par with Special Category States. As such, benefits under AIBP are provided to remote, rural areas and tribal areas.

(c) and (d) The guidelines for AIBP funding are being revised from time to time in order to enhance the scope of funding as well as to allow special consideration for the regions lagging behind in development, which presently include north-eastern states, hilly states, drought prone and tribal areas, KBK districts of Orissa, states with lower irrigation development as compared to national average and districts identified under PM package for agrarian distressed districts.

Irrigation dams

2930. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of irrigational dams in the country;
- (b) the average age of major dams;
- (c) whether there is a constant and continuous assessment of the strength and safety of dams; and
- (d) the manner in which the dams are ranked in terms of strength and safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As per the updated National Register of Large Dams (NRLD) maintained by Central Water Commission there are 5125 large dams, of which 4728 have been completed. Out of the total number of completed dams, 4372 dams are for irrigation purposes, including 244 dams meant for multipurpose.

- (b) As per the updated NRLD, the age-wise profile of large dams in the country is as below:

Sl. No.	Age (Yrs.)	No. of Dams
1	0-10	287
2	11-20	605
3	21-30	1248
4	31-40	1289
5	41-50	493
6	51-60	239
7	61-100	239
8	More than 100	126
9	Age unknown	202

(c) The responsibility of safety of dam rests with owners of dams i.e. the concerned State Governments or Public Sectors Undertaking or Private bodies. The owners are required to carry out periodical dam safety inspections (Pre monsoon and Post monsoon) to assess the safety status of such dams.

(d) No ranking criterion is applied in terms of strength and safety of these dams.

Hydroelectric dams on Brahmaputra river by China

2931. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China is constructing hydroelectric dams on Brahmaputra river and its tributaries;

(b) if so, the details of location, size and capacity of the dams;

(c) whether the Central Government is considering to sign a water sharing agreement/treaty with the Government of China; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by Ministry of External Affairs, a hydro-electric project at Zangmu, having a total installed capacity of about 510 MW, is under construction on the main Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) River in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.