

Pace of development projects

†447. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pace of development projects of water resources in the urban and rural areas of the country is slower than the growth of urbanisation in the country;
- (b) whether Government is taking any steps to attain fast growth in developmental projects of water resources keeping in view the growing population of the country or any measures being taken in this regard;
- (c) whether many water resource related projects are running behind their schedule;
- (d) if so, whether Government is making any efforts to complete those projects at the earliest; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Development of water resources projects is an ongoing effort of the Central and State Governments. State Governments plan and implement water resources projects as per their requirements and priorities. Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments through technical and financial assistance. Pace of development projects of water resources and growth of urbanization are not comparable. However, Water Resources sector has been given due importance during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Twelfth Five Year Plan Document indicates an increased total outlay of about Rs. 4,22,012 crores for the Twelfth Five Year Plan under the Water Resources sector (irrigation, flood management and command area development).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The State Governments take necessary actions for expeditious completion of water resources projects. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments for expeditious completion of irrigation projects, the Central Government is providing Central Assistance under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

Polavaram dam project in Andhra Pradesh

448. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Polavaram dam project of Andhra Pradesh has already started

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

working and if so how many villages and land would be submerged by its water and how many farmers would lose their livelihood; and

(b) what would be the compensation package in such situations and the details of protective embankment made to protect the people of the surrounding area?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) As per the information furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP), the works of Polavaram project of Andhra Pradesh were commenced in October, 2004 and are programmed to be completed by June, 2018.

In Andhra Pradesh, there will be submergence of 276 villages and 38694 hectare of land affecting a population of 177275. In Odisha, there will be submergence of 4 villages and 648.05 hectare of land with a population of 6316 being affected. In Chhattisgarh, there will be submergence of 8 villages and 795.59 hectare of land with a population of 11766 being affected.

(b) As per the information furnished by the State Government, they have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2051.52 crore towards implementation of R&R for the Project Affect Families due to the project.

Protective embankments, to be provided by GoAP along rivers Sabari and Sileru in the territories of Odisha and Chhattisgarh, are expected to avoid any submergence and displacement of peoples in these States. Embankments are proposed for a length of 30.0 km. (*i.e.* 11.0 km. along river Sileru and 19.0 km. along river Sabari) in Odisha and for a length of 29.12 km. along river Sabari in Chhattisgarh. GoAP has agreed to provide the protective embankments at a cost of Rs. 621.64 crore.

Irrigation and hydro power potential in West Bengal

449. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to provide Central assistance for harnessing irrigation and hydropower potential in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of projects funded in the State till date and the position of funds sanctioned and disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Government of India provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the State Governments on their requests and as per the Guidelines of AIBP for completion of ongoing Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI)