

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3823
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2018

INCLUSION OF IRRIGATION IN BASIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

†3823. SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the agriculture sector plays an important role in the economy of the country in view of India being an agriculture dominated State and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government has not included irrigation in the basic development infrastructure so far on the lines of electricity, ports, airports and construction of roads;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken/to be taken by the Government in this direction?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) Yes Madam, Agriculture sector plays an important role in the economy of the country. 54.6 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture and allied activities (Census 2011) and it contributes approximately 17.4 percent of India's Gross Value Added at current prices during 2016-17.

(b) & (c) Irrigation being a State subject, Irrigation/Water Resources Projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. In order to supplement their efforts, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) etc. under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

(d) During 2016-17, ninety-nine on-going Major/Medium irrigation projects under PMKSY-AIBP having ultimate irrigation potential of 76.03 lakh ha. and balance estimated cost of Rs.77595 cr. have been prioritized in consultation with States, for completion in phases up to December, 2019 along with Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM) works. Funding mechanism through NABARD has been approved by the Government for both Central and State share Component.