

1. **Scheme** Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)(50:50)
2. **Year of Start** 2000-01
3. **Brief Write-up** The aim of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is to complete Major irrigation projects in time bound manner to increase the irrigation potential in the country. The GoI is providing funds as loan/grant to the States to complete the projects. At present the funding pattern of AIBP is 50% grant by the GoI and the remaining 50% is to be managed by the State by taking loan either from financial institutions, or from own sources.

4. Financial Progress

(As on 31/7/08)
(Rs Cr)

Year	Annual Allocation			Receipt of funds			Release of funds			Expenditure			Remarks
	CS	SS	Total	CS	SS	Total	CS	SS	Total	CS	SS	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2008-09 (50:50)	99.05	99.05	198.10	-	4.00	4.00	-	4.00	4.00	5.39	5.54	10.93	Un-satisfactory, No special funds are-released sofar by GoI under BNP.
2007-08 (25:75)	84.99	254.99	339.98	17.90	60.20	78.10	17.90	60.20	78.10	17.90	60.20	78.10	
2006-07 (33.67)	36.00	108.00	144.00	3.00	7.00	10.00	3.00	7.00	10.00	3.00	7.00	10.00	
2005-06 (33.67)	56.83	68.67	125.50	4.69	33.80	38.49	15.19	39.05	54.24	15.19	39.05	54.24	

- During 2007-08 for kandi canal Phase-II project, GoI allocated Rs 20.00 Cr under AIBP as Central Share, which could not be received/utilised due to late signing of MoU.
- Under AIBP GoI released Rs 17.90 Cr in 2007-08, out of which Rs 13.50 Cr was for First Patiala Feeder Kotla Branch and Rs 4.40 Cr for providing irrigation facilities to Himachal Below Talwara against the allocated budget of Rs 24.50 Cr as Central Share.
- In 2008-09 no central funds under AIBP has been received sofar because the new funding pattern of 50:50 is yet to be approved by the Union Cabinet.

5. Physical progress

Year	Targets(ha)	Achievements(ha)	Remarks
2008-09	75860	-	The final physical progress will be available after the completion of the projects.
2007-08	109184	26201	
2006-07	41240	36439	
2005-06	51651	49665	

6. Problems faced by the State :

- The funding pattern under AIBP in 2007-08 was 25:75 between GoI and GoP, which is now 50:50 from 2008-09 onwards. Less receipt of funds from GoI due to non relaxation in one-for-one condition.
- At present under AIBP two projects namely Extension of Kandi Canal phase-II and rehabilitation of channels of First Patiala Feeder and Kotla Branch are being implemented in the state. The state has submitted a project costing Rs 552.00 Cr for Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of branch canals of Sirhind Canal, the approval from GoI is awaited.
- The project providing Irrigation facilities to Himachal Area below Talwara is an inter-state project and is entirely meant for Himachal Pradesh. This project is covered under the guidelines of AIBP for Special Category State. Ministry of Water Resources providing assistance to Punjab from its share under norms for Non-special Category State where as share of HP is being provided under Special Category State. As all the benefits are going to HP, the Punjab share should also be considered under Special Category state. However, the case for reconsidering this project as 90:10 between Central Government and State Government is lying pending with Ministry of Water Resources.

7. Suggestions

- The stringent norms/ conditions prescribed under the AIBP for funding of Irrigation sector lead to denial/delay in allocation of funds for Irrigation projects. As the state having a largest/oldest irrigation infrastructure, the classification of the states in to ‘Special Category States’ and ‘Non Special Category States for funding under AIBP should be rationalized. Moreover, the relaxation for one-for-one condition as agreed in the bilateral discussions held in the Planning Commission at the time of finalization of Annual Plan 2008-09 is yet to be approved by the Ministry of Water Resource, GoI.
- Punjab needs the ERM of the existing infrastructure to achieve the targeted agriculture growth rate. The work can be executed only during a canal closure, which can be obtained for a period of not more than 2 months in a year. Thus in case of the ERM Project needs to be taken up simultaneously so that maximum work can be executed. This project of ERM of Canal Infrastructure of Punjab should be considered as one Project and not multiple Projects.
- As per financial norms under CAD & WM programme 10% contribution is to be made by the farmers. The financial condition of the farmers is not sound. Hence this condition must be relaxed or omitted. Keeping in view the state contribution in term of food grains in the Central Pool and also having a largest irrigation infrastructure Special funds may be provided to the State under Bharat Nirman Programme.

8 Places in Ludhiana and Amritsar districts where any component has been executed or is under execution:-

Sr No	Name of Scheme	Ludhiana	Amritsar
1	Remodeling of Channels of UBDC System to meet the revised water allowance (AIBP)	-	One (Project stand completed)
2	Const of Field channels on UBDC system on matching grant basis(50:40:10)	-	One (On going project)
3	Construction of Field channels on Sirhind Feeder Phase-II canal system on matching grant basis (50:40:10)	One (On going project)	-
4	Rehabilitation of Channels of 1 st Patiala Feeder and Kotla branch (AIBP)(50:50)	One (On going project)	-