

DRAFT PRESS BRIEF

Sub: "Canal lining and System Rehabilitation Programme" (CLSRP)

It has been observed that the benefit of flow irrigation could not be optimized as the main canal and distribution system are not capable of carrying design discharge because of huge loss in conveyance. Saving of water through prevention of seepage loss in canals and better water management facilities has been considered as key for optimal and judicious use of water in this State. So, as a principle, the State Govt. is considering to design all new canals as line canals and to convert the existing canals into line canals in due course in a phased manner.

With this objective in view, the Department of Water Resources have proposed a new scheme christened as "Canal Lining and System Rehabilitation Programme" (CLSRP). The scheme is designed to cover around 3.00 lakh he. ayacut in 22 canal system in 8 major projects, 19 Medium projects and 214 Minor Irrigation Projects.

The scheme will be implemented with an outlay of Rs.1000 crore over the period of next 5 years from 2013-14 to 2017-18. It will be funded by the State Govt. out of its own State Plan resources. Possibility of farming of central assistance for the scheme under National Water Mission and Climate Change Action Plan will be explored latter.

The expected achievements of the scheme is as follows:

- (i) Increase in water use efficiency by an average of 10% in the sub-projects covered.
- (ii) Stabilization of 300000 ha. of ayacut through improved service delivery in the whole system and providing assured irrigation to partially irrigated and fully deprived ayacut.
- (iii) Reduction in gap between irrigation potential created and utilized in the sub-projects covered to the extent of 75,000 ha.
- (iv) Reclamation of 5000 ha. of ayacut now unsuitable for agriculture purpose due to water logging and salinity.