

channels start shrinking. As much as built up area increases near the streams and channels, the groundwater retention reduces, and the channels begin to dry up and shrink.

Irrigation Projects

- Irrigation projects having Culturable Command Area (CCA) of more than 10,000 hectares are classified as major projects. Those having a CCA between 2,000 hectares and 10,000 hectares fall under the category of medium irrigation projects. And the projects which have a CCA of less than 2,000 hectares are classified as minor irrigation schemes.
- For the purpose of analysis, the major and medium irrigation projects are usually grouped together. These projects include a network of dams, bunds, canals, and other such schemes. Such projects require substantial financial outlay and are, therefore, constructed by The Government or any other agency which may draw financial assistance from The Government and financial institutions.
- The minor irrigation projects, on the other hand, encompass all ground water development schemes. Minor irrigation projects or the groundwater development schemes are essentially people's programmes implemented primarily through individual and cooperative efforts with finances obtained mainly through institutional sources.
- Creation for irrigation potential of 10 million hectares was targeted under Bharat Nirman during 2005-06 to 2008-09. As per information provided by State Governments, the total irrigation potential created during the period is 7.31 million hectares against the target of 10 million hectares.

Some Important Irrigation and Multipurpose Projects

- **Bargi Project (Madhya Pradesh):** It is basically a multipurpose project containing of a masonry dam on Narmada river in the Jabalpur district and a left bank canal.
- **Beas Project (Joint venture of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan):** It comprises of Beas-Satluj Link and Beas Dam at Pong.
- **Bhakra Nangal Project (Joint project of Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan):** India's biggest, multipurpose river valley project comprises a straight gravity dam across the Satluj river at Bhakra, the Nangal dam, the Nangal hydel channel, two power houses at Bhakra dam and two power stations at Ganguwal and Kotla.
- **Chambal Project (Joint project of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan):** The project comprises Gandhi Sagar dam, Rana Pratap Sagar dam and Jawahar Sagar dam.
- **Damodar Valley Project (West Bengal and Bihar):** A multipurpose project for the unified development of irrigation, flood control and power generation in West Bengal and Bihar. It comprises multipurpose dams at Konar, Tilaiya, Maithon and Panchet; hydel power stations at Tilaiya, Konar, Maithon and Panchet; barrage at Durgapur; and thermal power houses at Bokaro, Chandrapura and Durgapur. The project is administered by Damodar Valley Corporation.
- **Dulhasti Power Project (Jammu & Kashmir):** It is a 390 MW power project in Kishtwar region of Jammu & Kashmir on Chenab river. Work for this project started in 1981. The foundation stone was laid on April 15, 1983 by the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi. Work on this project was suspended due to threats of kidnapping and killings by