

scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies during the 10th Plan. NCT of Delhi was not covered under the scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

20 feet deep cracks area near Allahabad District

†454. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in certain parts of the country, particularly in four villages of Meza Tehsil of District Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh, about 20 feet deep cracks have appeared on the surface of earth and thereby affecting a 5 kilometer stretch;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether over exploitation of the underground water is one of the reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to avert this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As per reports received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Geological Survey of India, Lucknow, the cracks appeared on the surface of the earth in some parts of the country including 6 villages of Meza Tehsil of District Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh. The report also indicates that these cracks developed due to excessive drying up of soil as a result of excessive withdrawal of ground water and over saturation of soil mass due to heavy rainfall of short duration.

The Government of India has circulated a Model Bill to all States / UTs to enact suitable legislation for controlled withdrawal of ground water.

Bill for control of flood

□455. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States to which the Bill on measures to check flood in 1975, prepared by Central Water Commission, was sent;

(b) whether the Bill includes the right to formulate policy on evacuation of people affected by flood providing compensation to people in flood affected areas and settlement in flood-prone areas;

(c) the States which had made a legislation by getting that Bill pursued in their respective State Assemblies;

(d) whether the Bill was passed in State Assemblies of Rajasthan, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.