

(a) whether the Kutch region of Gujarat is also a part of Sindhu Basin;

(b) whether Government has received representation dated 7th February, 2008 from State Government of Gujarat that Kutch region of Gujarat State has conditions similar to Rajasthan, the Indus water should be reallocated so that Gujarat is also allotted waters proportionately; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government and reaction of the Water-sharing States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA):

(a) Kutch region of Gujarat is not considered to form a part of the Indus Basin as per the present available basin maps or the Irrigation Commission Report of 1972.

(b) Hon'ble Minister of Water supply, Water Resources, Urban Development and Urban Housing, Government of Gujarat had written a letter dated 07.02.08 to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources regarding allocation of Indus water to Kachchh region of Gujarat. He had referred to earlier letter dated 23.03.04 from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat in the matter and letter dated 01.08.05 from his predecessor, requesting for appropriate action by Central Government for allocation of Indus water (i.e. Ravi-Beas-Sutlej water). He had requested for an early decision.

(c) The then Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources had responded to the above letter on 18.03.08 indicating the water issues amongst the present beneficiary States of Eastern Rivers, some of which are before the Hon'ble Supreme Court including a Presidential Reference on the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004 enacted by Punjab Vidhan Sabha. It was further stated that under the circumstances, till the existing issues get resolved and the present beneficiary States are in a position to spare some water, it might not appropriate to open any issue for reallocation of water.

Dugwells scheme

1480. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is introducing dugwells scheme in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the aims and objectives of such dugwells in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) in what manner the people of rural areas like East Godavari and West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh will benefit from such scheme; and

(e) the funds allocated and spent so far in the Eleventh Five Year Plan in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA):

(a) to (e) A scheme for "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells" has been approved with a total outlay of Rs. 1798.71 crore in seven States including the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Objectives of the scheme include, recharge of existing dugwells and improvement of ground water situation, increase in sustainability of ground water during lean period and improvement in the overall agricultural productivity. The scheme will benefit farmers in raising agricultural production through increased availability of ground water.

The funds allocated and spent so far in Eleventh Five Year Plan under the scheme in each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

State	Subsidy allocated	Administrative/ training monitoring/ operating/impact assessment/ maintenance costs	Subsidy released	To Nodal Departments for Administrative/ IEC Activities, etc.
Andhra Pradesh	298.874	57.29	0	0.00
Gujarat	189.724	37.59	37.98	3.25
Karnataka	53.623	10.21	12.96	2.00
Madhya Pradesh	123.092	27.28	0	2.00
Maharashtra	100.684	19.07	9.32	2.00
Rajasthan	283.070	66.72	3.38	2.00
Tamil Nadu	450.203	81.30	87.75	5.75
TOTAL :	1499.270	299.46	151.39	17.00

Plan to interlink rivers

†1481. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether to do away with the problem of shortage of water in many States of the country Government has prepared or propose to prepare any plan to interlink the rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA):

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.