

resources and their conjunctive use, should be envisaged right from the project planning stage and should form an integral part of the project implementation.

- Over-exploitation of ground water should be avoided especially near the coast to prevent ingress of seawater into sweet aquifers.
- Improvements in existing strategies, innovation of new techniques resting on a strong science and technology base are needed to eliminate the pollution of surface and ground water resources, to improve water quality.
- Private sector participation should be encouraged in planning, development and management of water resources projects for diverse uses, wherever feasible. Private sector participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Quantity of fluoride in water**

†3020. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has fixed any norms regarding the quantity of fluoride in water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any survey in various cities of the country with a view to ascertain fluoride contents in water; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published a Standard named "BIS 10500:1991 Drinking Water — Specification", which prescribes the essential and desirable characteristics required to be tested for ascertaining the suitability of water for drinking purposes. The Standard in respect of Fluoride prescribes the desirable limit as 1.0 milligram per litre (mg/l), and permissible limit in the absence of alternate source as 1.5mg/l.

(c) and (d) Central Ground Water Board monitors the ground water quality, once in a year on regional basis, through a network of 15640 observation wells located throughout the country. The fluoride content in the ground water samples collected from observation wells is found to be below 1.0 mg/l in most part of the country. At some locations, the fluoride content in ground water is found to exceed 1.5 mg/l.

#### **Medium Irrigation Projects**

3021. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of medium irrigation projects, out of the total 221 (as per the Tenth Plan) projects, undertaken in the State of West Bengal in the Tenth Plan;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the details of medium irrigation projects proposed to undertake in the Eleventh Plan;
- (c) the amount that has been allotted and released for the above projects in the Tenth Plan and the Eleventh Plan;
- (d) whether it is not a fact that many medium projects are delayed due to non-release of money by his Ministry; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As per the Report of the Working Group on Water Resources for the Eleventh Five year Plan (2007-2012), there were 5 medium ongoing projects in the Tenth Plan in the State of West Bengal. As per information available, these projects were the following:—

- 1 Golamarajore
- 2 Moutorejore
- 3 Beko
- 4 Khaira Bera
- 5 Futiary

(b) to (e) Irrigation is a state subject and planning, execution and funding of the irrigation projects is within the purview of the concerned State Governments as per their own priority. Central Government provides financial assistance to the State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for expeditious completion of ongoing irrigation projects on the basis of proposals received from State Governments in accordance with the guidelines of the programme. No central assistance has been provided to above projects under AIBP during Tenth and Eleventh Plan.

#### **Assistance to West Bengal**

3022. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of assistance provided to the State of West Bengal under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in the last 10 years, year-wise;
- (b) whether it is not a fact that assistance to West Bengal under AIBP is coming down; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Year wise details of the Central Assistance provided to the State of West Bengal under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1999-2000 to 2009-10 are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) The release of Central Assistance under AIBP depends on submission of AIBP release proposal by the State Government as per guidelines of the programme and budget provision available for AIBP during the year.