(ii) Providing technical guidance to the States in tackling problem of ground water quality.

(iii) Provisioning of safe drinking water to rural population under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and organisation of mass awareness programmes in ground water affected areas.

(iv) Issuance of directions by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to limit the discharge of effluents within the stipulated standards and setting up of network of water quality monitoring stations and common effluent treatment plants.

Diversion at Matmora, Assam

118. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that diversion of a channel of Brahmaputra at Matmora in Dhakuwakhana area of Assam is under serious threat of erosion and heavy silt deposition converting large area of cultivable land to desert as reported;

(b) if so, the details of immediate measures taken by the State and Central Government to protect the flood affected people and their livestock by rehabilitating them;

(c) whether any Central package has been declared for these flood and erosion affected people; and

(d) if so, the details of utilization in Assam by State Government and beneficiaries till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes Sir. As informed by the State Government of Assam, a breach had occurred during July' 2008, in the embankment of river Brahmaputra at Matmara in Dhakuakhana area of Assam and consequently, the flood water entered through this breach to country side causing sever erosion and depositing huge volume of silt on paddy fields thereby converting the cultivable land barren and desert in almost all the inundated areas of Matmara. The flood water affected about 30,620 families covering 139 villages.

(b) As an immediate measures, the State Government of Assam sanctioned *ex-gratia* grant at the rate of Rs. 2000 per affected family and an amount of Rs. 4.67 crore was distributed. Gratuitous relief to the flood affected families was also distributed as reported by the State Government.

(c) In order to close the above breach, the State Government of Assam submitted a scheme "Raising and Strengthening to Brahmaputra dyke from Sissikalghar to Tekliphuta including closing of breach by retirement and anti erosion measures (to protect Majuli and Dhakuakhana areas against flood devastation by the Brahmaputra)" with an estimated cost Rs. 142.42 crore for implementation with Central assistance; which was approved and included

under "Flood Management Programme" by Government of India for central assistance (with 90% central grant). The first instalment of Central assistance amounting to Rs. 99 crore was released to the State Government of Assam in March' 2009.

(d) As reported by the State Government, an amount of Rs. 35 Crore has been utilized by the State Government of Assam from the Central grant of Rs. 99 Crore released in March' 2009 for closure of the breach.

Water stock in Andhra Pradesh

119. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total water stock in the 81 reservoirs had plummeted to 30.62 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM), which is only about 20 per cent of their combined live water storage capacity of 151.76 BCM by April 23, 2009 which also included Telangana and coastal Andhra Pradesh alongwith other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective steps being taken by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details for the week ending 23.04.2009, as monitored by Central Water Commission (CWC) are as below:—

Name of reservoir	Live capacity at FRL (BCM)	Current live storage (BCM)
Total for 81 reservoirs of India	151.768	30.628
Total for 5 reservoirs in Andhra Pradesh	20.044	3.988
1. Srisailam	8.288	1.285
2. Nagarjunasagar	6.841	0.998
3. Somsila	1.994	0.922
4. Sriramsagar	2.300	-0.663
5. Lower Manair	0.621	0.120

(c) As informed by CWC, the reasons for poor storage could be less inflows into the reservoirs due to delayed/less rain falls in the catchment areas of the reservoirs besides withdrawal/out flow from the reservoirs for irrigation, drinking and other uses without proper water budgeting under present circumstances.