

(a) whether Indian national committee on Irrigation and Drainage has decided to host 60th International Executive Council and International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage together with its Fifth Asian Regional Conference in 2009;

(b) whether theme of conference is improvement in efficiency of irrigation projects through technology upgradation and better operation and maintenance; and

(c) if so, how many countries are there and the main subjects discussed in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) :
(a) to (c) The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) is organizing Fifth Asian Regional Conference (ARC) and 60th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting at New Delhi during December 6-11, 2009 jointly with Ministry of Water Resources. The Theme of the ARC is "Improvement in Efficiency of Irrigation Projects through Technology Upgradation and Better Operating and Maintenance". The Sub-theme for the Conference are (a) Modernization of Public/State Operated Irrigation System and Services (b) Public-Private Partnership in Irrigation Development and Management (c) Integrated Approach in Agricultural drainage (d) Capacity Development for Modern Irrigation Management (e) Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources Availability and Crop Productivity (f) Legal Aspect in Sharing of Water Resources. A special session on ground water recharge has also been planned on the concluding day. ICID has informed that it expects participation of delegates from about 60 countries.

Command Area Development Programme

3640. SHRI R. C. SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to implement Command Area Development Programme (CADP) as State Sector Scheme;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) the number of projects under CADP undertaken from the West Bengal in the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) the progress of above programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) :
(a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme has been approved as a State Sector Scheme for four years of XI Five Year Plan (2008-09 to 2011-12) with an outlay of Rs. 1600 crore.

(c) Four projects namely (i) DVC System, Burdwan, (ii) Kangasbati, Bankura, (iii) Mayurakshi, Suri-Bribhum and (iv) Teesta Project, Siliguri have been continuing as on-going under the CADWM Programme in the State of West Bengal for the last five years *i.e.* 2004-05 to 2008-09.

(d) An amount of Rs. 521.746 lakh has been released and an area of 19505 ha. has been covered with On Farm Development (OFD) works during the last five years in the State of West Bengal.

Hydrology Project

3641. SHRI R. C. SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes/schemes undertaken under Hydrology Project Phase-II in the State of West Bengal;

(b) whether the programmes/schemes undertaken under Hydrology Project Phase-I have been completed in the State of West Bengal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) :
(a) and (b) Hydrology Project is not being implemented in the State of West Bengal. Therefore, no programmes/schemes are undertaken or completed in the State under Hydrology Project Phase-I and Phase-II.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Study of Ganga

3642. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new study of major river systems of the world has revealed that Ganga is rapidly losing its water;

(b) if so, the reasons for this phenomenon, according to study;

(c) whether the feasibility of taking any short-term measures has been examined; and

(d) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) :
(a) and (b) A paper titled "Changes in Continental Freshwater Discharge from 1984 to 2004" based on a study carried out by Mr. Aiguo Dai and others has been published in the Journal of Climate. The authors have concluded that the results reveal large variations in yearly stream flow for most of the world's large rivers and for continental discharge.

From the paper, it appears that the flow of river Ganga at Farakka has been used for which the observational record for the period from January, 1976 to December, 2000 is reported to be derived