

repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. Activities relating to water conservation and water harvesting are also funded under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).

Gyspa Hydro electric project

3027. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gyspa Hydro-electric project on Chenab basin in Lahaul and Spiti of Himachal Pradesh has been declared a project of National Importance by Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it was decided that Central Water Commission and Government of Himachal Pradesh would jointly prepare DPRs for Gyspa Project and State Government would provide manpower and CWC would provide funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether despite many request from Government of Himachal Pradesh, required fund of Rs. 35 crore have not been released by CWC so far; and

(e) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The project has been included as a National Project.

(b) and (c) In a meeting between officials of the Central and State Governments, a decision was taken that Central Water Commission (CWC) and Government of Himachal Pradesh would work out the details of investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Gyspa hydroelectric storage project and the funding would however be made by CWC.

(d) and (e) CWC made a suggestion to the State Government to the above effect further indicating that joint working would be cost effective and within the funds sanctioned to CWC for investigation and preparation of DPR. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB) has however conveyed its view to engage some reputed international consultants/firms to prepare the DPR of the project. HPSEB has further indicated that the total estimated amount (Rs. 32.50 crore) for preparation of DPR would not be required in single instalment but would be phased out and submitted to CWC. However, the requisite source for such funding of preparation DPR is not available with CWC.

Consumable sea water

†3028. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.