

(a) whether it is a fact that only 56,539 water consumer organizations are in existence to ensure proper utilization of water in only 13,156 million hectare irrigated cultivable land out of total irrigated land which is 40 per cent of the total cultivable land of 140 million hectare;

(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the absence of sufficient number of water consumer organizations creates hurdles in proper utilization of water; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(a) and (b) At present 56,934 Water Users' Associations (WUAs) covering an area of 13,538 th. ha. (13.538 million ha.) of irrigated cultivable land are in existence for proper utilization of water.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ministry of Water Resources encourages formation of WUAs and transfer more and more irrigated area to them. WUAs are given on time functional grant at the rate of Rs. 1000 per ha. to be shared among Centre: State: Farmers as 450:450:100. Members of WUAs are imparted training from time to time to ensure efficient utilization of water.

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

1473. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre is considering to offer further funding to States on Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme;

(b) if so, whether Government has also received from State authorities full facts of progress so far made on these schemes;

(c) if so, to what extent and whether Government had clarified that funds would be provided only after seeing performance of State Government on subject;

(d) if so, to what extent Government has agreed to provide further funds for irrigation project schemes to States; and

(e) whether Centre is also considering to take steps to implement tribunal orders on water dispute?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) For the year 2009-10, the budget allocation initially allocated by the Ministry of Finance is of Rs. 7000 crore which is likely to increase of Rs. 8000 crore. Release under AIBP during the year will depend on release proposals received from the State Government for the year in accordance with AIBP guidelines.

(e) Section 6(1) of the Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 provides that the Central Government shall publish the decision of the Tribunal in the Official Gazette and the decision shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute and shall be given effect to by them.

Accordingly, the decisions given by Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal, Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal and previous Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal were notified on 12.12.79, 7.7.80, 31.5.1976 respectively.

Strategies of water availability

1474. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently convened a meeting of Secretaries from the States to discuss strategies of water availability in view of below normal rainfall during the current monsoon season;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and outcome thereof;

(c) whether any instructions have been given to States to ensure steps to provide water in the needy areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The Ministry of Water Resources did not convene any "meeting of Secretaries from the States to discuss strategies of water availability in view of below normal rainfall during the current monsoon season". However, the annual meeting of Principal Secretaries/Secretaries — in-charge of Irrigation, Water Resources and Command Area Development Departments of the States/UTs was held on 24.06.2009 to discuss the progress in respect of ongoing schemes/Programmes. The agenda for the meeting include; (i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and related issues; (ii) Flood Management; (iii) Command Area Development and Water Management; (iv) Ground Water Management; (v) Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies; and (vi) Externally Aided Projects. In view of the said position, it would be observe that the subjects for discussion in the meeting of Principal Secretaries/Secretaries were different from than those mentioned in the Question.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Inter-State river water disputes

1475. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is pretty serious to solve the problem of Inter-State River Water Dispute;