

(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