(c) whether Government has taken any steps to conserve the rain water at village and town level; and

(d) the amount spent by Government during the last three years for conservation of rain water in order to deal with the crisis of drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Water Resources has no scheme to make the rain water potable. It is for the State Governments to provide potable water to the rural areas. However, the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Drinking Water Supply) provides technical and financial assistance to the States through centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to supplement the efforts of the States. Under NRDWP, the States are competent to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes. Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), under Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Rural Department has supported in the past the roof top rain water harvesting and dissemination of ferro-cement technology based storage tanks at the village level. Year-wise details of number of projects, funds sanctioned and released during the last three years under the scheme of 'Rain Water Harvesting from Roof Tops using Ferro-Cement Tanks' are as follows:

Year	No of Project	Total Sanctioned Amount Rs.	Total Released Amount Rs.
2007-08	46	3,24,49,081	2,72,04,334
2008-09	45	3,36,26,059	2,34,55,567
2009-10	4	51,76,738	43,64,375

Flood prone area in Assam

2272. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flood prone area has increased in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any comprehensive study in this regard including the study on continued deterioration and encroachment of watersheds along river basins;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government has also assessed the effect/impact of construction of dams and barrages in flood control in Assam; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) The Government of India constituted the Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) in 1976; which submitted its Report in 1980. The RBA assessed the area liable to floods in Assam as about 3.15 million hectares. However, the area liable to floods in Assam was reported as 3.82 million hectares by the State Government of Assam to the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan Working Groups.

The flood management being a State subject, the matter regarding the comprehensive study on continued deterioration and encroachment of water sheds along river basins as well as on effect/impact of construction of dams and barrages falls under the purview of the State Government. The State Government of Assam has informed that no such study has been made by them.

Teesta water sharing

2273. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Water Resource Ministers of India and Bangladesh recently held talks on Teesta water sharing issue;

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

(c) whether any agreement with Bangladesh on other common rivers and lift irrigation system has also been held; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The 37th India-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission meeting led by the Ministers of Water Resources from both sides was held from March 17-20, 20010 in New Delhi. The two sides discussed matters pertaining to the Teesta Water Sharing Issue. In this regard, Bangladesh presented a draft on agreement on interim sharing to Teesta river water while India presented a draft statement on principles of sharing of Teesta waters. The Commission directed the Secretaries (Water Resources) of both the countries to examine the documents towards an expeditious conclusion of an interim agreement in the spirit reflected in the Joint Communique issued during Bangladesh Prime Minister's visit to India.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, discussions on issues relating to the sharing of waters of the other common rivers namely, Dharla, Dudhkumar, Manu, Khowai, Gumti, Muhuri and requirement of water for minor Lift Irrigation Schemes on river Feni were also discussed. It was agreed to continue the discussions on these rivers further at Secretaries' level meetings of both the countries.

Par-Tapi-Narmada Link

2274. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: