

Completion of Rajiv Sagar Project

† 1632. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajiv Sagar (Bawanthadi) Project under construction of Madhya Pradesh, is the inter-state project of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra both;

(b) whether delay is being caused on account of non-clearance of forest land, acquisition of land and non-payment of its share money by the State Government of Maharashtra to Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the action being taken by Central Government to expedite the implementation of this project; and

(d) by when, the sanction will be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (d) Rajiv Sagar Project (Bawanthadi) is an ongoing major inter-state irrigation project of the state of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra with ultimate irrigation potential of 57.12 thousand hectare. Project is delayed due to non clearance of additional forest land and non completion of Resettlement and Rehabilitation works. The Government of Maharashtra has paid their share to Government of Madhya Pradesh in May 2006. To expedite implementation of the progress, the Central Government included Madhya Pradesh portion of Rajiv Sagar Project (Bawanthadi) under AIBP in 2004-05. The CLA/Grant released under AIBP for the project to the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra is Rs. 48.6701 crore (up to March 2006) and Rs. 44.069 crore (up to March 2006) respectively.

Development of Linganamakki Dam, Shimoga

1634. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for development of Linganamakki Dam, Shimoga is pending with the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[8 August, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ); (a) and (b) The Karnataka Power Corporation Limited has informed that they have not submitted any proposal for development of Linganamakki Dam in Shimoga District.

Depletion of Ground Water

1632. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water level is depleting in a!! geographical regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to consider rain water harvesting as a potential method to replenish the water tables; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) A long-term analysis of ground water levels by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, during the years 1995—2004, indicates decline in ground water levels in some parts of various States/Union Territories in the country.

(b) As per the latest assessment of ground water resources carried out jointly by the CGWB and the States Ground Water Organizations, out of 5723 replenishable ground water resource assessment units (block/ mandal/taluka), 839 units are 'over-exploited' (where stage of ground water development is more than 100% and significant decline in long term trend of water level has been observed in either pre-monsoon or post-monsoon or both), 226 units are 'critical' (where ground water development is more than 90% and upto 100% and significant decline is observed in long term trend of water level in both pre-monsoon and post-monsoon) and 550 units are "semi-critical" (where stage of ground water development is between 70% and 100% and significant decline in long term water level trend has been recorded in either pre-monsoon or post-monsoon). In the remaining units, which mostly fall under 'safe' category, no significant fall in ground water levels has been recorded.