

Report on deflection of Bhakra dam

442. SARDAR SUKHDEY SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought any report from the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) on the deflection of Bhakra Dam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) With reference to a news item captioned 'Tip of Bhakra Dam tilts, storage capacity to reduce' published in the Tribune dated 13th September 2010, Bhakra Beas Management Board intimated the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Power that the health of Bhakra Dam is being monitored regularly. All the parameters, vital for the stability of the dam, were within the permissible limit of the dam. The deflection was well within the elastic limit of the dam and there was no danger to its stability. In the past, there have been more perceptible deflections than that observed this year and the basic inherent elastic nature of the dam brings it back automatically during the depletion period as the water level goes down.

Revision of National Water Policy due to climate change

443. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is formulating a revised national water policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to make consultation with the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that it has been necessitated to make a revised national water policy due to climate change?

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

(b) to (d) The National Water Policy states that it may be revised periodically as and when need arises. Further, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) states that “the National Water Policy would be revisited in consultation with States to ensure basin level management strategies to deal with variability in rainfall and river flow due to climate change”. Ministry of Water Resources has initiated the consultation process with various stakeholders for review of National Water Policy. “Review of National Water Policy” has been discussed with the representatives of State Governments during the meeting of the National Water Board held on 18th September 2009. A consultation meeting with Hon’ble Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources, Consultative Committee for Ministry of Water Resources and Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management was held on 28th July, 2010 at New Delhi. A Brain Storming Session with the academia, experts and professionals was also organized on 26th October, 2010 at New Delhi.

Funds for development of rivers in Gujarat

444. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any proposals from Gujarat State Government seeking funds for development of rivers and Thebi river of Amreli of Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the further action taken by the Ministry;

(e) the action taken by the Ministry to protect fertile land of Amreli district seashore area from sea erosion; and

(d) if so, the details and fund allocated for this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No proposal has been received in the Ministry of Water Resources from the State Government of Gujarat seeking funds for development of rivers including Thebi river of district Amreli of Gujarat.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and d) During Eleventh Plan, a State sector scheme namely, “Flood Management Programme (FMP)” amounting to Rs. 8000 crore has been approved ‘in principle’ by the Cabinet for