

capacity of about 75.42 BCM are under construction and 132.32 BCM are under planning. In order to complete the ongoing projects, Government is providing Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme. In addition, Command Area Development Programme is being implemented to fully utilize the potential created. As a long term measure National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resource development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins.

Government of India is also promoting Rain Water Harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the Sector reform Project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government and other implementing agencies Central Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

Completion of polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh

310. DR. DASARINARAYANA RAO:

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in construction of multipurpose Palavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) by when it is likely to be completed to help the people of coastal belt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that Polavaram Project could not be implemented *inter-alia* for want of an inter-state Agreement with the other co-basin States viz. Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa; need for joint preparation of project report by the co-basin states; and resolution of forest, re-settlement and rehabilitation and environment issues.