

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) what is the extent of time and cost overrun in respect of each of those projects and efforts made to complete the projects within the extended time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (e) At present no irrigation project of the Central Government is under implementation.

However, it is mentioned that Irrigation being State subject, planning, execution and funding of the irrigation projects is within the purview of the concerned State Governments based on their own priority.

Flood warnings

145. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Flood Forecast Monitoring Directorate has reported that four rivers are flowing above warning level in Assam and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what precautionary steps Government has taken up till now?

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

(b) As per the information received from Flood Forecast Monitoring Directorate of Central Water Commission (CWC) four rivers namely Brahmaputra, Dikhow, Beki in Assam and Kosi in Bihar were flowing above Warning Level on 22nd June, 2011.

(c) The CWC issues flood forecasts/advance warning to various user agencies such as District Administration, Disaster Management Department, Irrigation/Water Resources Department of concerned States, Railways, electronic and print media, etc. for taking appropriate necessary actions.

Regulatory system for ground water

146. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ground water tables are depleting in all geographical regions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the use of ground water has been increasing rapidly for irrigation and industrial purpose;

(d) whether there is any regulatory system in place pertaining to use of ground water;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, whether Government has any plan to put in place any such system; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) An analysis of water level data collected by Central Ground Water Board during May, 2011, compared with average water level recorded during the last decade (May, 2001 - May, 2010) has indicated that 58% of the observation wells throughout the country have registered rise and remaining 42% wells have registered decline in ground water levels. State-wise details are given in Annexure [See Appendix 223 Annexure No.2].

(c) With the Increase in water demands, use of groundwater for various purposes including irrigation and industrial purposes has been increasing.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Water Resources has circulated the Model Bill to all the States and Union Territories to regulate and control the development of ground water. So far States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and UTs of Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have enacted ground water legislation. The Government has also constituted Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), under Section 3(3) of Environment (Protection) Act of 1986, to regulate and control the ground water development and management in the country. Various regulatory measures undertaken by CGWA are as under :

- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has notified 43 areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and

West Bengal; and UT of Diu for regulation of ground water development and management. For enforcement of the regulatory directions issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Acts, 1986, concerned Deputy Commissioners/ District Collectors have been authorized to take necessary action in case of violations of directives of CGWA in the notified areas. In these areas, installation of new ground water abstraction structures is not permitted without prior approval of the Authority/Authorized officer. State Pollution Control Boards, BIS and Ministry of Environment and Forests refer the proposals for new industries/projects falling in over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas to CGWA for obtaining No Objection Certificate for withdrawal of ground water. However, no permission is granted for extraction of ground water for new industries in the notified areas.

- Besides these, CGWA has issued directions to all the Residential Group Housing Societies/ Institutions/Schools/Hotels/Industrial Establishments falling in the over-exploited and critical areas (except in the water logged areas) in the country to adopt Roof Top Rain Water harvesting systems in their premises. Directions have also been issued for Implementation of ground water recharge measures along all National Highways, State Highways and other major roads by CRRI, National Highways Authority of India, CPWD, State PWDs; along rail tracks by Indian Railways; in the Stadiums by Sports Authority of India, BCCI, Departments of Sports and Youth Affairs and in the Airports by Airport Authority of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation for Promoting Rain Water Harvesting/adoption of artificial Recharge to Ground Water in the country (except in the water logged areas). CGWA has also issued directions to Chief Secretaries in 12 States and Administrations in 2 Union Territories having Over-exploited blocks to take necessary measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water/rain water harvesting.
- The Authority has also directed large and medium industries using ground water in the over exploited and critical areas in the country (except in the water logged areas) to take up water conservation measures including recharge of ground water/rain water harvesting and adopt practices of treatment, recycle and reuse of waste water in their premises.

(f) and (g) Questions do not arise in view of (a) to (e) above.

Alarming water level in the country

†147. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.