

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Irrigation/flood protection being a State subject, the planning, execution, funding, as well as priority of executions of irrigation projects or any other flood management projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, this Ministry provides technical help and financial assistance through different schemes available with the Ministry, as per guidelines, as and when requested by the concerned State Governments.

Desiltation of Brahmaputra

3558. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government and Assam Government have been spending a lot of amount for desiltation of Brahmaputra river and its tributaries and especially of those flowing through Guwahati; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) and (b) Water is a state subject and water resources schemes of rivers are formulated, executed and funded by these State Governments from their own resources and as per their priorities. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

During XI Plan, a State sector scheme namely, 'Flood Management Programme (FMP)' has been approved by the Cabinet for providing central assistance to the State Governments under which the Grants-in-aid can be considered for undertaking flood control and river management works. No financial assistance has been provided to the Government of Assam by the Central Government under Flood Management Programme during XI Plan for any scheme involving desilting in Brahmaputra river. However, an amount of Rs. 50.65 lakhs has been released to Assam for desiltation in Rangir Khari channel in Barak valley so far under FMP scheme.

As per the information provided by Government of Assam, desiltation of rivulets/channels flowing through Guwahati city viz: Bharalu, Bahini, Basista, Mora-Bharalu etc. are done annually to maintain the carrying capacity which are clogged by city garbage and silt coming from the

surrounding hills and from the upper catchment area. A total of 19 schemes estimated to cost about 16.42 crore have been awarded for desiltation of rivers in Guwahati during 2006-07 till 2011-12 by the Water Resources Department under the funding of Twelfth Finance Commission.

Problem of water supply

†3559. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of water supply in the country is continuously deepening due to rapidly growing economy and extensive agriculture sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the condition of water supply is deteriorating due to mismanagement of water resources;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of efforts made during the last three years for proper water management, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) The problem of water supply gets aggravated due to uneven distribution of rainfall over space and time, rising population, urbanization and industrialization.

(b) and (c) The total of average annual precipitation for the country is estimated to be about 4,000 billion cubic meters (BCM). After accounting for the evaporation and evapo-transpiration, the water availability has been assessed as 1,869 BCM, which is likely to continue. On the basis of the population indicated in 2011 census, the per capita water availability works out to be about 1,545 cubic meter per year making India a water stressed country. According to Falkenmark Water Stress Indicator, water availability below 1,700m³ per capita per year indicates water stress condition.

(d) Water is a State subject and it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to take necessary measures to develop and manage water resources projects. However, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.