of Andhra Pradesh for raising the allocation amount under the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) is pending nor does the Union Government propose to raise the allocation. Against the original allocation of Rs. 490.31 crore for the entire mission period of 7 years *i.e.* 2005-2012, Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 1991.57 crore has been committed and Rs. 1731.76 crore has already been released so far for 84 UIDSSMT projects in the State.

Expediting construction of Metro Railway Line in Andhra Pradesh

1229. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amounts released so far from various companies, Central Government and State Government of Andhra Pradesh towards the Construction of Metro Railway Line in Ranga Reddy District and Hyderabad District of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the details of commencement of various aspects of works which had already started regarding this project;
- (c) the various speedy steps proposed to be taken to complete this project much earlier; and
 - (d) the period expected to complete this project as fast as possible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) The project is being under taken under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode by Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Central Government has approved Central Assistance of Rs. 1458 crore under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme of Ministry of Finance. However, till now no proposal for release of installments of Central Assistance for this project has been received in this Ministry. As per information received from project authorities, the State Government has spent Rs. 81.37 crore towards Project facilitation works such as land acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation activities etc.

(b) to (d) Concession has been awarded to M/s. L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Ltd. Surveys and soil testing have been completed and design work is in advanced stage. The Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) has acquired and handed over most of the land required for the Project to the Concessionaire. Over 98% of the Right of Way is also made ready to speed up the Project. The project is expected to be completed in Financial Year 2015-16.

Shortage of drinking water in metropolitan and other cities

1230. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: