

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the Sone Canal system is the oldest system of irrigation in Bihar. The system has been functioning since the year 1876.

(b) Sone Basin water is to be distributed among Member-States as per Bansagar Agreement signed by the then co-basin States of Madhya Pradesh (MP), Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Bihar in 1973 in which annual yield of river Sone and its tributaries was assessed as 14.25 Million Acre Feet (MAF). Out of which 5.25 MAF was allocated to MP, 1.25 MAF to UP and 7.75 MAF to Bihar.

(c) Ministry of Water Resources set up a Joint Operation Committee (JOC) for Rihand reservoir consisting of members from UP, Bihar and Central Electricity authority (CEA) under the Chairmanship of Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission (CWC) for formulation of guidelines for operation of Rihand reservoir, after assessing the water availability, irrigation requirements in Bihar and Power to be generated with a view to meet the requirements of both the States. The meetings of JOC are convened every year after withdrawal of monsoon to recommend the release from Rihand reservoir based on water position in Rihand reservoir at the end of monsoon, irrigation demand of Bihar and hydropower generation plan of UP.

Utilisation of river water in Chhattisgarh

†2939. SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to use the running water of rivers of Chhattisgarh for drinking, irrigation and industrial purposes;

(b) whether any necessary step has been taken to stop the water flow in the rivers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, the State Government of Chhattisgarh has taken necessary steps for planning and implementation of water resources projects for drinking, irrigation, industrial purposes, etc., from the water of rivers in Chhattisgarh.

Ashok Chawla Panel on scarce water resources

2940. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received the recommendations/suggestions by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.