

(c) and (d) While recommending the setting up of a Water Regulatory Authority in each State, the Thirteenth Finance Commission observed that 'injudicious inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral distribution of water amongst various categories of water users, low water use efficiency, fragmented approach to water resources planning and development, low water user charges and meagre recovery are some of the major problems associated with the management of water resources in the country. A statutory autonomous institution at the state level could help in addressing these issues'. Government of India has accepted the recommendations.

**Agreement with Nepal for floods control of Kosi river**

3406. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA :

SHRI SANJAY RAUT :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that India and Nepal are working together to control floods due to overflow of Kosi river;
- (b) if so, the details of the agreement in this regard; and
- (c) what is the time-frame agreed between the two countries for controlling floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) and (b) Government of India maintains the flood protection works of Kosi Barrage in Nepal through the State Government of Bihar. During the 1st meeting of India-Nepal Joint Ministerial Commission on Water Resources (JMCWR), JMCWR recommended that the maintenance of 15 Km length of eastern Kosi embankment presently being maintained by the Government of Nepal, may also be taken up by the Government of India. In addition, Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project on river Kosi in Nepal, is planned, which on implementation will also mitigate floods due to Kosi river.

(c) Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project is scheduled to be completed by February, 2013.

**Utilisation of water**

†3407. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for water scarcity in the country is the improper utilisation of water in the country;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.