

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action being taken by Government to increase the percentage of irrigation in States with low percentage of irrigation; and

(d) whether Government is proposing to provide aid to States with low percentage of irrigation including Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) The Guidelines for Submission, Appraisal and Clearance of Irrigation and Multipurpose Projects were prepared by Central Water Commission (CWC) in 1989. The Planning Commission also simplified the procedure of investment clearance to the projects other than those on inter-State rivers from time to time. Subsequently the procedure of project appraisal of Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects for both major and medium projects, having inter-State ramification, had been revised to accommodate various subsequent changes in guidelines of the Planning Commission and the first revised Guidelines in this respect were issued in 2002 by CWC. Further, these Guidelines have been modified by CWC in 2010.

(c) and (d) The Union Government provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the States as per guidelines for completion of ongoing projects. As per the latest amendments to AIBP guidelines made in December 2006, the condition that an ongoing project has to be completed before inclusion of a new project under AIBP has been relaxed for projects benefitting states with lower irrigation development as compared to national average. The proposals received from Government of Madhya Pradesh are processed as per the latest Guidelines of AIBP.

Restoration of ponds

†2476. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that the ponds which were built for public utilities in most parts of the country have been filled;

(b) whether a list has been prepared in this regard and if not, by when it would be prepared;

(c) whether filling of ponds in villages and towns is one of the reasons for declining ground water level;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether any initiative has been taken by the Ministry to restore the ponds which have been filled; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry is aware that the capacity of ponds is reducing.

(b) Yes, Sir. The list showing details of number of water bodies in the country has been prepared based on conducting census of minor irrigation structures in villages/rural areas.

(c) The reduction in storages may be one of the reasons for declining ground water level.

(d) Government had approved a State Sector Scheme for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water Bodies with two components (i) one with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 1500 crore and (ii) another with domestic support with and outlay of Rs. 1250 crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan period.

(e) Does not arise.

Irrigation of land in UP

2477. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land per hectare irrigated under Bharat Nirman Yojana (BNY) in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the allocation made during 2012-13 for the purpose; and

(c) the details of land proposed to be irrigated under the said Yojana during the Twelfth Five Year Plan in the State, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Irrigation Potential of 2201.22 thousand hectares has been created under Bharat Nirman Yojana in Uttar Pradesh. District-wise information is being collected from the State Government of UP.