

**Prevention of wastage of water**

456. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the quantity of wastage of water owing to the condition of irrigation canals in the major irrigation projects;
- (b) whether measures are undertaken towards upgradation and repair of the canal system to prevent large scale wastage of water; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The canals are designed taking into account some wastage of water. The wastage of water allowed varies from type of design and soil conditions. It also depends on maintenance and proper upkeep of canals by project authorities. Due to poor maintenance of canals, the conveyance loss increases.

(b) and (c) The operation and regulation of quantity of water in canals, branch canals, distributaries, etc. are carried out by the project authorities under the respective State Governments. Government of India provides financial assistance under AIBP for Extension, Renovation & Modernization (ERM) projects to the States Governments on their request which help in proper distribution of water through canal network. Further, it is proposed to improve the water use efficiency by 20% under National Water Mission.

**High power committee on inter-linking of rivers**

457. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a High Power Committee has been constituted for planning and implementation of inter-linking of rivers by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The High Power Committee to be set up for interlinking of rivers as per the