

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the response and the steps taken by Government for this development;
- (d) whether this construction is in violation of the 1960 Indus Water Treaty signed by India and Pakistan;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether an environmental impact assessment was carried out by Government before the start of the project; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In its order of 23rd September 2011 a Court of Arbitration has ruled, pending the rendering of its award and without going into the merits of the case, that it is open to India to continue with all works relating to the project, except for the construction of any permanent works on or above the Kishenganga riverbed at the dam site that may inhibit the restoration of the full flow of that river to its natural channel.

(c) The order is being complied with.

(d) and (e) The construction is in full compliance of the Treaty.

(f) and (g) NHPC Ltd. had an environmental impact assessment study of the project carried out in 2002 through The Centre for Inter-disciplinary Studies of Mountain & Hill Environment (CISMHE), University of Delhi.

#### **Implementation of judgement and direction in inter linking rivers**

460. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has declined to entertain a petition filed by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) seeking review of the inter linking rivers (ILR) judgement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is the stand of Government regarding the implementation of the judgement and direction to the Central Government to set up a special committee to carry out the implementation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has not filed any petition seeking review of the interlinking of Rivers (ILR) judgement.

(b) The High Powered Committee for implementation is yet to be constituted by the Central Government, as nominations are yet to be received from the State Governments.

### **Depletion in ground water levels**

461. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's first aquifer atlas points to a sharp depletion in ground water levels in several parts of Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The first aquifer atlas "The Aquifer Systems of India", has a map on "Categorization of Ground Water Assessment Units" which indicates over exploitation of ground water in several parts of Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The State-wise details of categorization of ground water assessment units as over-exploited, critical and semi-critical is given in Statement (See below). This categorization has been done by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in association with respective State Governments, which is based on the stage of ground water development and water level trends. Sharp depletion in the ground water levels is mainly due to excessive withdrawals of ground water to meet the increasing demand of water for agriculture, industrial and drinking purposes and also rapid urbanization resulting in lower recharge.

(c) The present position of depletion of ground water levels in different States/Union Territories is as per assessment of the ground water resources carried out by the Central Ground Water Board in association with the State Governments during 2009 as the base year.