

World Bank fund for Ganga

2506. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister, in his meeting with the World Bank President recently, suggested that cleaning of Ganga would be a very inspiring project for the World Bank to take up;

(b) if so, whether out of the earlier approval of \$1 billion for Mission Clean Ganga by the World Bank in 2011, some amount had already been disbursed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for a fresh request for the same purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) In their recent meeting, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and visiting World Bank President have agreed to look at the intervention of the Bank in some of the focus areas of the Government and Cleaning of Ganga is listed as one of the priority areas.

(b) and (c) The World Bank Loan of US \$1 billion continues and an amount aggregating US\$ 75.25 million has been disbursed till 31st May 2014 by the World Bank. No fresh proposal has been posed to the World Bank over the above this.

Development and management of water resources

†2507. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several reports by international organizations such as World Bank, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) etc. have mentioned about ground water related issues and challenges in the country thereby necessitating essential measures to be taken for sustainable development and management of ground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate a scheme to check uncontrolled exploitation of water resources including ground water to prevent water crisis in the future; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Several reports by international organizations such as World Bank, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) etc. have mentioned about ground water related issues and challenges in the Country, and suggested a number of measures like an increase in water tariffs in urban settings; reducing crop water requirements as well as non-beneficial evapo-transpiration from fields in agricultural settings; conjunctive use of surface and ground water in specific areas; ground water recharge enhancement to manage over-exploitation of ground water etc. which, *inter-alia*, include measures to be taken for sustainable development and management of ground water in the country.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" during the year 2013, which envisages construction of different types of Artificial Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting structures in the Country in an area of 9,41,541 square km by harnessing surplus monsoon runoff to augment ground water resources. Further, the National Water Policy (2012), which has been forwarded to all State Governments/UTs and concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for appropriate action, also highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through direct use of rainfall. Initiatives for water conservation and water recharge are being undertaken by the respective State Governments which, *inter-alia*, include conservation of water resources in the reservoirs and traditional water bodies, rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments through various schemes and programmes to facilitate this. A National Water Mission, has also been set up to *inter-alia*, promote conservation of water resources.

(c) and (d) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate indiscriminate ground water abstraction in the Country. CGWA has notified 162 Blocks/Talukas/Areas for regulation of ground water development in the Country, wherein, permission to construct new bore-wells is not granted, except for drinking and domestic purpose. In non-notified areas, CGWA accords "No Objection Certificate (NOC)" for withdrawal of ground water for new and expansion of industrial/infrastructure/mining projects

based on guidelines/criteria fixed for evaluation of such projects. Regulations are being enforced through the concerned Deputy Commissioners/District Collectors and in cases of reported violations/shortcomings in implementation of directives of CGWA, the concerned Deputy Commissioners/District Collectors have been authorized to take necessary action as per the provisions of Section 15 to 21 of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Besides, a Model Bill has been circulated to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact ground water legislation for its regulation and development.

Emergency action plan for dams

2508. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether only few States have prepared emergency action plans for dams thereby rendering huge area and property left vulnerable to cascading effects of dam failure;

(b) if so, the details thereof and corrective steps taken by the Central Government to safeguard the life of people;

(c) whether even river basins and dams under the Central Water Commission's (CWC) monitoring for flood forecasts, have deficiencies regarding non-functioning telemetry stations, temporary gauge sites during the flood period and flood forecasting stations not having dedicated communication facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when these deficiencies would be rectified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Central Water Commission has prepared "Guidelines for Development and Implementation of Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Dams". EAP is project specific and is prepared by Dam owners (State Governments/Public Sector Units/Project Authorities) keeping in view the EAP Guidelines. Further, the responsibility for implementing EAP lies with the Dam owners. Central Government provides a guiding and advisory role in matters concerning Dam Safety. The necessity of having an EAP for large dams is emphasized by the National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) to member States/Organisations in its meetings. As per information available in Central Water Commission (CWC), nineteen State Governments/project authorities have prepared EAP for a number of dams under them as per details given in Statement (*See below*). Central Government is implementing the "Dam Rehabilitation