

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other steps Government proposes to take to ensure that ground water is not extracted for commercial purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate indiscriminate groundwater abstraction in the country.

(b) and (c) 162 Blocks/Talukas/Areas for regulation of ground water development in the country have been notified by CGWA, 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.

Accelerated irrigation benefit programme

†144. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of additional under construction schemes to be sanctioned this year under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, as on date; and

(b) by when the final decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) Four Projects have been included in the AIBP Scheme in the list this year *i.e.* 2014-15. In addition, four proposals of new irrigation projects are under scrutiny/examination, which have been received from State Governments during the year 2014-15 for Central Assistance under AIBP.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The decision for inclusion of these depends on timely submission of compliance by the State Government.

Funds for Pancheswar Dam

†145. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India and Nepal have allocated funds for Pancheshwar dam to be built in Champawat district of Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the items for which this amount has been sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) It has been agreed to have a corpus fund of ₹ 20.00 crore with both India and Nepal contributing IRs. 10.00 crore each, for preliminary works of Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA).

Funds for flood canal project in Tambiraparani river

146. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds has been allocated by the Central Government for flood canal project in Tambiraparani river which prevents river water waste into the sea and using the surplus water for enriching paddy cultivation in water scarce areas of southern Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, how much is the Centre's allocation; and

(c) what are the measures taken to increase agriculture in dry areas of the South?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) The Government of Tamil Nadu had formulated a project in 2008 amounting to ₹ 369 crore on "Formation of Flood Carrier Canal from Kannadian Channel to drought prone areas of Sathankulam, Thisaiyanvilai by interlinking Tambiraparani,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.