

(a) whether Government has convened the meeting of Cauvery Management Board (CMB) in the recent past and directed the Karnataka Government to release water from Cauvery for farming activities in Government of Tamil Nadu particularly in Cauvery Delta region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) The 'Cauvery Water Management Scheme' was notified by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in the Gazette of India *vide* Notification No. S.O. 2236 (E) dated 01.06.2018 *inter alia* constituting the 'Cauvery Water Management Authority' and 'Cauvery Water Regulation Committee'. The first meeting of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) was held on 02.07.2018 at New Delhi. As per the minutes of the meeting, monthly quantum of water to be ensured at Billigundulu for the month of June and July in a normal year is 9.19 Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) and 31.24 TMC respectively. It was noted by the CWMA that cumulative water received at Billigundulu during June, 2018 was 13.29 TMC which was 4.10 TMC more than the stipulated quantity in a normal year. During the said meeting, the CWMA directed the Government of Karnataka to ensure 27.14 TMC (31.24 – 4.10) of water for the month of July, 2018 after adjusting the excess quantity of water amounting to 4.10 TMC realised by Tamil Nadu at Billigundulu during the month of June, 2018 subject to assessment and recommendation by Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC). Subsequently, CWRC during its first meeting held on 05.07.2018, noted that the rainfall in the catchment area of Cauvery basin of Karnataka and Kerala during the month of June, 2018 was more than normal and there were no indications of distress in any part of the basin till the date of meeting.

Ground water contaminated by Sterlite factory

621. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any steps to check the nature of ground water in Thoothukumdi (Tamil Nadu) in the back drop of agitation against Sterlite factory alleging that ground water has been contaminated due to the pollution from Sterlite factory;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, what steps have been taken so far and whether Government will come forward to check the ground water;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (e) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has carried out a study to ascertain the ground water quality in and around SIPCOT industrial area, Thoothukudi (wherein, M/s Sterlite industry is one of the industry). The study indicates that most of the ground water samples are contaminated with high TDS and heavy metals like Lead, Cadmium, Chromium, Manganese, Iron and Arsenic, which are beyond permissible limits of BIS Standards for drinking water (IS:10500 of 2012).

As per information received from Central Pollution Control Board, the analysis of ground water samples, from the Sterlite industrial unit, by the State Pollution Control Board shows presence of Iron, Lead, Fluoride, Cadmium and Nickel more than the permissible limit of BIS.

The Central and State Pollution Control Boards are controlling industrial pollution under the provision of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act, 1974. The Sterlite industrial unit has been closed by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board on 23.5.2018, *inter alia*, due to non-compliance of consent conditions.

Supply of water to districts in Rajasthan

†622. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from Rajasthan Government for supply of water to some districts of the State from Yamuna canal for drinking and irrigation purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken in this regard by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) Yes, sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.