

(d) Construction of Sittwe Port is part of the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project. It's objective is to create a multi-modal sea, river and road transport corridor for shipment of cargo from the eastern ports of India to Myanmar through Sittwe port as well as to North-Eastern part of India *via* Myanmar. Once fully operational, the project would encourage investment and trade and also open up alternate routes for connectivity to India's North East Region.

Construction of Pancheswar dam on Sarada river

2854. DR. SANJAY SINHG: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to construct Pancheswar dam on river Sarada of the country, which is also popularly known as Mahakali river in Nepal;
- (b) if so, whether Government has received any expert Appraisal Committee Report on the impact on environment and technical feasibility therefor;
- (c) if so, whether Government has asked for views from Nepal Government therein; and
- (d) the terms of references on water sharing and conditions of project with the counterpart in construction of mega-hydro project thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) As per provisions of the "Mahakali Treaty" signed by the Governments of India and Nepal for integrated development of the Mahakali River (known as Sarada in India) in 1996, Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project is to be constructed on a stretch of the Mahakali River where it forms the boundary between the two countries. Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) has been set up jointly by India and Nepal with Head Quarter at Mahendranagar in Nepal for execution and operation of the Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project on river Sarada. A draft Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project has been prepared by M/s WAPCOS Limited.

(b) to (d) The project was considered twice by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on 24.10.2017 and 5.12.2017 as per EIA Notification, 2006 for Indian portion of the project. The draft DPR is with the two Governments for finalization through a mechanism of Team of Experts/Officials constituted by both, India and Nepal.

The terms of reference on water sharing and conditions of the project are as per provisions under the Mahakali Treaty of 1996 between the two countries, and the notification of Pancheshwar Development Authority.

Water Conservation Fee for groundwater extraction

2855. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Ground Water Authority has notified a Water Conservation Fee that Industries will need to pay on groundwater extraction starting from June, 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the industries extracting groundwater, including the mining dewatering units and those using groundwater from packaged drinking water, will also need to apply for a 'No Objection Certificate' from Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) Central Ground Water Authority has notified revised guidelines to regulate and control groundwater extraction in India, which will be effective from 01.06.2019. These guidelines have provisions for levy of 'Water Conservation Fee' on the project proponents for groundwater extraction.

(b) The details of Water Conservation Fee which shall be charged from users as per guidelines are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) All industries including mining/infrastructure and packaged drinking water units, using groundwater will have to apply for No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the CGWA. The Gazette Notification dated 12.12.2018 issued by CGWA in this connection can be seen at the web-link: <http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2018/193742.pdf>.

Statement

Details of Water Conservation Fee to be charged for users as per guidelines

I. Drinking and domestic use

All domestic users (having more than one inch dia delivery pipeline or, seeking second connection) and other proponents covered under infrastructure projects (except