

(b) whether according to the data monitored by the Central Water Commission, Maharashtra, Karnataka and parts of Tamil Nadu are facing drought conditions and acute water shortage; and

(c) whether the residents of Chennai have been facing an unprecedented shortage of drinking water with only fortnightly tanker supplies of potable water arranged by the city's Water Supply Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors the live storage status of 91 reservoirs of the country on weekly basis and issues weekly bulletin on every Thursday. As per reservoir storage bulletin dated 27.06.2019, live storage available in these reservoirs is 26.272 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) which is 86% of average live storage for last ten years of these reservoirs.

Out of 91 reservoirs monitored by CWC, reservoirs in Southern and Western regions are 31 and 27 respectively which includes reservoirs of Maharashtra (17 numbers), Karnataka (14 numbers) and Tamil Nadu (6 numbers). As per reservoir storage bulletin issued on 27.06.2019, live storage available in these reservoirs of Southern and Western Regions was 5.18 BCM and 2.88 BCM respectively. The present live storage available in reservoirs of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is lesser by 77%, 36% and 47% respectively, as compared to the average live storage of last ten years. As per Manual for Drought Management 2016 published by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, water storage available in reservoirs of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu can be categorised as extreme deficit, moderate deficit and severe deficit respectively.

(c) Major drinking water supply tanks for Chennai city are Poondi, Cholavaram, Red hills and Chembarambakkam. As on 27.06.2019 the storage available in these tanks was 0.16% of total water storage capacity which was 20.55% during the same period last year. Alternate arrangements are made by Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board to cater to the water needs of Chennai City.

Piped water for rural households

1652. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 80 per cent rural households are yet to get piped water supply in the country;

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

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for providing adequate water supply to every rural areas through piped water in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) As reported by States on Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), 18.33% rural household are getting drinking water from household tap connection. Drinking water supply is a state subject. This Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to States to improve the coverage of drinking water in rural areas. Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), focus of the Ministry is to provide piped water supply to all rural household. Providing household connection is purely voluntary action on chargeable basis and State Governments are empowered to provide household connections using funds provided under 14th Finance Commission as well as from funds provided directly to rural local bodies.

Issues of water crisis in the country

1653. SHRIMATI AMBIKASONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has called a meeting of Water Resources Ministers of State Governments recently to discuss the issue of water crisis in the country;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the meeting and the issues discussed and decisions taken;
- (c) whether the issues of water conservation, providing drinking water and sanitation have been addressed to, with a time-bound programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (d) A meeting of the State Ministers in-charge of Water Resources, Water Supply and Sanitation was held on 11th June 2019 at New Delhi. The meeting was held to review the steps taken by various States on water conservation and the implementation of action plans to deal with the water supply situation, plan for water harvesting and conservation in convergence with other programmes. The need to integrate various water conservation efforts like point recharge, de-silting of minor irrigation tanks, use of grey water for agriculture and ensuring sustainability of the sources was discussed. State Governments were requested to complete water conservation measures so that large-scale rain water harvesting could be possible in the upcoming monsoon season.