

Assessment of ground water level

87. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has brought in satellite backed sensors for real time assessment of ground water levels to get accurate updates on ground water levels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the parameters etc. for the measurement of ground water level after Phase-1 of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) One of the objectives of the ongoing National Hydrology Project is real time monitoring of water resources data including ground water levels. Various Central and State agencies have taken steps to achieve this objective.

(c) The outcomes of Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) is being measured based on increase in groundwater level, increase in surface water storage, increase in soil moisture in farm lands, number of saplings planted etc. The data on these parameters from specific sites are uploaded in the JSA website and are analysed to measure outcomes in consultation with the Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India.

Providing tap water to all households

88. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) announced by Government will also boost the rural economy apart from the aim of providing tap water to all household by 2024;
- (b) if so, details of Government infrastructure outlays for this mission; and
- (c) the steps taken so far in rural areas of the country to achieve the targets for making the mission successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Yes. With the proposed investment of ₹ 3.60 lakh crore in five years primarily on developing water supply infrastructure, Jal Jeevan Mission

(JJM), which aims at providing potable drinking water to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024, will also boost the rural economy.

(c) To achieve the goal of JJM, this Department provides financial and technical support to States/ UTs. After the launch of JJM, a conference of Minister in-charge of rural water supply of various States was held in New Delhi followed by five regional workshops to discuss various aspects of JJM and modalities of the implementation. In addition, regular review of the programme is also held with States/UTs.

Floods due to siltation in rivers

†89. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flood caused by the silt settled in the Ganga-Yamuna-Bagmati-Brahmaputra-Narmada-Kamala-Koshi rivers and rain water creates problems for the humans in villages and cities;

(b) whether a large amount of funds is spent every year to link the rivers and clean the rivers like Ganga and to remove the silt; and

(c) the reasons due to which Ganga is not cleaned and the silt from other rivers is not removed from the rivers even after spending such large amounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Erosion and deposition of silt is a natural process in alluvial rivers. Rivers pickup, carry and drop silt load as per their regime condition i.e. discharge in the river, river slope, morphology, nature of silt etc., Floods are natural calamity that India faces almost every year, in varying degrees of magnitude due to various factors, viz. wide variations in rainfall; both in time and space, inadequate carrying capacities of rivers, river bank erosion, landslides, poor natural drainage, snow melt, glacial lake out bursts and silting of river beds.

(b) and (c) Under National Perspective Plan (NPP), National Water Development Agency has identified 30 links for transferring water from surplus river basin to water deficit basin. However, no money has been spent by NWDA on execution to link the rivers under the NPP. As far as cleaning of Ganga river and its tributaries is concerned,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.