

Declining of groundwater level

899. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the groundwater level is declining at a faster rate due to low recharge, causing water scarcity problems in urban and rural areas;

(b) whether Government will consider giving priority to building of underground reservoirs along the river stretch by constructing underground dykes as this will block the forward movement of river base-flow recharging adjacent groundwater table since construction of over ground reservoirs is not a feasible solution due to land constraints; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to construct more irrigation canals across Odisha, which is badly affected by the floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Yes Sir, the Ground water levels in some parts of the country are declining because of continuous withdrawal necessitated by increased demand of fresh water for various uses, vagaries of rainfall, increased population, industrialization and urbanization etc.

Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and water harvesting in the country is primarily States' responsibility. However, important measures taken by the Central Government for conservation, management of ground water and effective implementation of rain water harvesting in the country are at the following URL: http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of this ministry.

(c) Flood management being under the purview of the States, the schemes for flood control are formulated and implemented by concerned States as per their priority. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance for flood management in critical areas.

Further, Central Water Commission is dealing with 99 priority Major and Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP). Under PMKSY-AIBP, 08 projects are being executed in respect of Odisha. Details in this regard are given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of projects in Odisha under PMKSY-AIBP is as follows

Sl. No.	Name of project	Latest Estimated Cost (₹ in Cr)	Cumulative Expenditure as on 07/2020 (₹ in Cr)	Cumulative CA Released as on 07/2020 (₹ in Cr)	Irrigation Potential Target under AIBP (in Th.Ha.)
1.	Lower Indra (KBK)	1595.35	1641.54	1091.95	38.87
2.	Upper Indravati Extn (KBK)	544.58	547.90	556.10	41.79
3.	Rukura-Tribal	240.22	241.49	88.78	7.65
4.	Subernarekha	4455.68	4280.69	1999.70	115.26
5.	Anandpur Barr. Ph.-I/Integrated Anandpur Barr.	2864.36	1550.83	124.91	56.72
6.	RET irrigation	707.64	734.93	190.44	9.78
7.	Kanupur	2301.28	1659.06	723.04	47.71
8.	Telengiri	932.96	1112.44	344.78	13.79
	TOTAL	13642.07	11768.89	5119.70	331.57