

Water storage capacity

*230.SHRI R.K.ANAND: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that India receives a surface water flow of 1869 billion cubic metre and the capacity to store water including the ongoing project is only 420 billion cubic metre;

(b) whether Government have formulated any plan to make arrangements to store water and to prevent the water flowing back into the sea; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) The annual average flow in the river systems of the country is 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Owing to the topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1122 BCM of which, surface water is 690 BCM and annual replenishable ground water resource is 432 BCM. Till now, total live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created. An additional live storage capacity of 75 BCM will be created on completion of the ongoing projects. Another live storage capacity of 132 BCM is to be created through the projects under consideration.

(b) and (c) In order to store the water, schemes are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the respective State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. An additional live storage capacity of 75 BCM will be created on completion of the ongoing projects. For speedy completion of ongoing water resources projects, the Central Government has launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Under the programme, financial assistance in form of central loan is being extended to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing irrigation projects in a time bound manner so that the benefits could accrue at the earliest. Besides, live storage capacity of 132 BCM is to be created through the projects under consideration. Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof -top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which

technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis. Central Ground Water Board has prepared a "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" which envisages to recharge 36453 Million Cubic Metre volume of water through 2.25 lakhs artificial recharge structures in rural areas like percolation tanks, check dams, sub-surface dykes, gully plugs, gabion structures, nala bunds, contour bunds, recharge shafts etc. As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers.

Kisan Credit Cards

*232. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Kisan Credit Cards issued in the country till March, 2003;

(b) the State-wise details of Kisan Credit Cards issued to farmers during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the target set during the current year to issue Kisan Credit Cards in the country with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), a total of 3,13,44, 289 Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) have been issued till March, 2003.

(b) The State-wise detail of KCCs issued by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs), Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), during the last three years, is given in the enclosed Statement (*see* below).

(c) During 2003-04, PSBs, RRBs and Co-operative Banks' target is to issue 76.76 lakh KCCs, including of 7.77 lakh for Andhra Pradesh.