

(g) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Government of Kerala has reported that there is no proposal allowing private parties to draw water from the river Periyar in Kerala.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) During the dry season the flow in the river gets reduced and there is intrusion of salt water to a certain extent.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

Erosion of Ganga

1370. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the continuous erosion of the Ganga which has assumed a dangerous proportion at Shankopara Station near Farakka, between railway line Nalodhip and Kala; and

(b) whether Government are also aware that the Bandel Thermal Power Station, Dakhineswar Temple, Balagarh in Hooghly, Katwa, Kalna in Burdwan, Barrackpore in North 24-Parganas in West Bengal are facing serious erosion problem of the Ganga (Bhagirathi)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Flood Management including river erosion being a State subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Government. The Central Government renders assistance which are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

As informed by the Government of West Bengal, they are aware of the erosion problem at village Shankopara in P.S. Farakka in the district of Murshidabad caused by the river Ganga/Padma. A scheme to arrest the erosion has already been prepared.

Further, Government of West Bengal has also informed that they are taking adequate steps to check/prevent erosion caused by river Ganga in various places viz. Katwa and Kalna in Burdwan and in this

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connection necessary schemes have been prepared after investigations which are to be taken up as per availability of funds. As regards the problem of erosion in P.S. Balagarh and near Bandel Thermal Power Station, the State Government has also taken necessary steps for protective measures. In the Barrackpore-Dakshineswar area in the district of North 24 Parganas, no alarming erosion of river Hooghly has been observed. However, the stretches of the river have been kept under observation by the State Government.

Water resources schemes for Rajasthan

1371. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented to assist Rajasthan for enhancing water resources;

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during the last two years, year-wise; and

(c) the State's achievement with regard to preservation of water and exploitation of water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Since water is a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigating, funding along with priority, execution, operation and maintenance of water resources projects primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. The Central Government has launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the Major and Medium Irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of completion and the State Government of Rajasthan has been provided an amount of Rs. 78.467 crore in the year 2000-2001 and Rs. 96.315 crore in the year 2001-2002 as CLA under (AIBP). The Government of India has provided an amount of Rs. 53.62 crore in the year 2000-2001 as a grant for augmentation of traditional water resources of the State of Rajasthan. In addition, the amount earmarked for following schemes in Rajasthan during the last two years is as follows: