

utilisation of water resources in the country for irrigation and other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Keeping in view the availability of utilisable water and its future needs, the Government has taken various policy and programme initiatives for optimum utilisation of the water resources in the country. These include preparation of National Perspective for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit areas and adoption of National Water Policy in September, 1987.

The National Water Policy broadly covers policy directions on elements like

- (i) Information system
- (ii) Maximising availability through adopting integrated basin planning and management approach inter-basin transfer of water and recycling & re-use of water.
- (iii) Ground water development including conjunctive use of surface and ground water and regulation of ground water extraction.
- (iv) Water allocation priorities.
- (v) Adoption of modern irrigation water management practices including command area development approach and promotion of efficient irrigation methods like drip & sprinkler systems.
- (vi) Rationalising water rates to convey the scarcity and economic value of water.
- (vii) Promotion of participatory management of irrigation systems.
- (viii) Creating awareness about various aspects of water related issues by way of training, demonstration, adoptive trials etc.
- (ix) Intensification of Research & Development efforts, and
- (x) Proper maintenance and modernisation of irrigation systems.

Further to National Water Policy, the following policy documents have been prepared:

(a) Draft Irrigation Management Policy.

(b) An approach to organisational and procedural changes in irrigation sector.

(c) Draft Water Information Bill.

(d) Draft National Policy guidelines for water allocation of inter-State rivers amongst States.

(e) Draft policy note on setting up of River Basin Organisations.

(f) Guidelines for planning conjunctive use of surface and ground water in irrigation projects.

In addition to above a Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme has been in implementation since 1974-75 for optimum utilisation of the created facilities.

At present, it covers a Culturable Command Area (CCA) of 21.32 million hectares in 189 irrigation projects spread over 22 States and 2 Union Territories. A National Water Management Project is also under implementation in 11 States covering a CCA of 3.36 million hectares through 114 Schemes for improving the efficiency of the existing irrigation facilities.

These policy measures and programmes are intended to achieve optimum utilisation of water resources in the country.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Despite the abundance of water resources in the country as a whole, the distribution is extremely uneven and a high percentage of water potential goes waste. May I know what percentage of utilizable potential goes waste and flows down in the sea and how far the low utilization is attributable to the persistent inter-State water disputes?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: The present utilisation of water is about 552 cubic kilometres.

What could not be utilised is about 590 cubic kilometres out of the total utilisable of 1142 cubic kilometres. water resources available in this country.

I agree with the Hon. Member that we are not able to utilise fully the water resources of this country due to pending river water disputes. As many as 51 projects are pending due to disputes arising out of utilisation of Inter-State river waters. Some of them are pending with the tribunals and some have not yet been referred to the tribunals.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: My second supplementary question is this. May I know whether in view of the high population growth rate, the present population of over 90 crores is estimated to grow to a grave water scarcity situation by the year 2025 A.D.; if so, what is the present per capita availability of water; with optimum utilisation, how far can it be possibly raised; and how far is the estimated per capita water availability likely to dwindle by the year 2025 A.D.?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: As per the 1991 census, the population is about 846 million and the utilisable water resources in the country have been assessed at 1142 billion cubic kilometres. At present, the average per capita availability of water is almost at 1360 cubic metres. As the Hon. Member said, the

demand is likely to grow higher in the year 2000. It is estimated that as against the present utilisation of about 552 cubic kilometres, we may have to increase the utilisation to 750 cubic kilometres by the year 2000. We have taken various steps. Some of the water resources are available through the projects and many projects are under construction. We are expecting another additional quantity of about nearly 130 cubic kilometres, out of the projects which are under construction and which are under contemplation. In addition to that, we are also exploring the possibility of storing rain water during the rainy season and use it during the lean season and also utilise it for recharge of ground water. So, with all these schemes under consideration, we expect that the water availability will be satisfactory by the year 2000.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan suffers from the acute shortage of water. It does not have any source of water. The Hon. Minister has attempted to settle the Yamuna water dispute in the interest of Rajasthan.

MR. SPEAKER: If Your question is not relevant, I'd disallow it.

[English]

You should understand that it is a very good question; and he has asked a very good supplementary Question.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that certain points have not been settled in the agreement as a result of which the Government of Rajasthan had to move the court. Would he Hon. Minister like to invite the Chief Minister of Rajasthan and try to settle the outstanding issues so that the thirst of the virtually very dry areas of Rajasthan may be quenched?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I do not insist that you should reply.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I need a separate notice for that.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: Mr. speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please read the question first- it is a good question - and then ask the Supplementary Questions. Otherwise, do not waste the time.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: As everybody knows, the dams are constructed in the name of agriculturists and for agriculture. As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, in allocation of priorities, drinking water comes first, agriculture comes second and industry comes third. But in some of the

States, priorities have been changed. They have given industry second priority and agriculture third priority. I would like to know whether the Government of India would issue directions to such States that agriculture should be given second priority, next to drinking water.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: I entirely are with the Hon. Member that drinking water is the first priority though the quantity utilised for drinking water is much less than what is utilised for agriculture. The National Water Policy has accorded the highest priority to drinking water and recommended that irrigation and multipurpose projects should invariably include drinking water component.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE : Sir, the dispute is not about the drinking water, but about industry and agriculture. Drinking water always gets the first priority and nobody opposes it.

MR. SPEAKER : His question is very clear, that is about the priorities. Which one shall take the priority— industry or agriculture?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : First priority is for drinking water then, it is for agriculture and then for industries.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE : No, Sir....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government that in view of the fact that the cost of creating irrigation potential during the Eighth Plan is around Rs.40, 000 per hectare and that about nine million hectares of irrigation potential created is not yet utilised, what concrete measures are being taken by the Government to see that the irrigation potential already created is utilised.

The second part of my question is this. The information that I got is that around Rs.37, 000 crores worth of foreign assistance is lying unutilised. What measures the Government is taking to see that it is utilised at the earliest so that they give irrigation facilities to the farmers?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I agree with the Hon. Member that the irrigation potential created is not fully utilised. Keeping this in view, a Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Scheme was initiated in 1974-75 with the basic objective of bridging the gap between potential created and potential utilised and increasing agricultural production from the irrigated commands.

The programme *inter-alia* envisaged execution of on-farm development works.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not read it out. Please give the gist of that.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, what I say is that we have taken up the Command Area Development as a Centrally sponsored scheme to bridge the gap between what is available and what is utilised.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it a fact that the amount available for irrigation purpose is not being utilised?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, it is worth Rs.37, 000 crores.

MR. SPEAKER: You can send the reply after getting it.

Kumari Uma Bharti. You should show that you understood the question.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a mega project associated with Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh is lying pending with the Department under the Hon. Minister for quite a long period. Certain environmental hurdles had cropped up that time. I, therefore, want to know its present position.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is disallowed.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Sir, in the reply it is said that the major component of the National Water Policy is to transfer water from the surplus areas to the deficit areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Is that presumption correct?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : This is the reply that they have given.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. You may continue.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Sir, I am speaking from the very reply. It is said that the major component is to transfer water from the surplus areas to the deficit areas. For that purpose, a river basin project was also prepared. I want to know, what concrete steps have so far been taken to transfer this into reality and which are the projects that are envisaged in this direction.

The second part is regarding 'water potential already created and not utilised'. I want to know in how many projects the potential is created and it is not utilised because of paucity of funds thereby keeping that potential dead. This is happening in two or three projects in Orissa which I can point out, like Potaru and Bramanu.

The third part is this.

MR. SPEAKER : You can ask only one question. But you are asking three questions.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : It is for information, Sir. It is said that 21 million hectares are supposed to be covered by 189 projects spread all over the country. I want to know whether these 189 projects spread all over the country have already been completed; if not, how many of them are still in the process of completion thereby making the cost to go up.

MR. SPEAKER : You will reply only to the first part of the question. To the second part, you have replied. The third part is not allowed to be replied.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: With this aim in view,

the National Water Resources Council has adopted the National Water Policy in September 1987 which recommended that the water resources planning is to be done for a hydrological unit such as basin/sub basin so that all the requirements of the water in basin/sub basin can be assessed and surplus water in any basin would be transferred to a water short basin. Government has prepared a National Perspective for transfer of water from surplus areas to water deficit areas comprising two components, namely, the Himalayan River Development Component and the Peninsular River Development Component. National Water Development (NWDA) has been set up in 1982 for firming up these proposals. So far, studies on 14 water transfer links out of 17 links identified in the Peninsular Component have been completed and the preliminary feasibility reports have been sent to concerned State Governments for concurrence. Further studies are programmed to be completed in the Eighth Plan. Similarly, studies are also being conducted in the Himalayan River Development Component... (Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, what is the reply? The Minister has replied without following my question. I want to know... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will send the list of projects which you have talked about. That is going to be a big list.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister of water Resources the total wastage of surface water in India. In my opinion its wastage in India is the Maximum in the World.

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is good.

[English]

Now, do not elaborate it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: I am just coming to the question. First my question is what quantity of Surface Water goes waste in India? My actual question is that when Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao took charge of his office three or four years back, an agreement was reached with Nepal to construct barrages and dams over the rivers flowing from Nepal to Bihar so that it would control not only floods but also provide power for irrigation. I would like to know whether any progress has been made to implement that agreement. As per the agreement, the work should have been started by now.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not deliver a lecture like this. I told you that your question was good. Now, please resume your seat.

[English]

The question is in two parts.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Thank you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now; what is the wastage?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It is already stated that about 590 cubic kilometres of utilisable water is being wasted.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the progress made with respect to these projects?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I need a separate notice for this.

MR. SPEAKER: You send that information to him.

SHRI M.G. REDDY: Respected Speaker Sir, it is a fact that some of the drought prone areas of Southern States have been preparing a comprehensive ground water plan with the help of the Central Ground Water Board. Sir, it is also a fact that the poor farmers of the drought prone areas, without proper knowledge, are digging wells, in-well bores and surface bores. I request the Hon. Minister to allocate more funds for the Central Ground Water Board so that they can prepare a comprehensive ground water plan.

MR. SPEAKER: I will disallow a question like this.

SHRI M.G. REDDY: Sir, I requested the Hon. Minister to allocate more funds.

MR. SPEAKER: You talk to him; he will help you.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: I want that you should not be displeased with my question.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not be displeased if you ask relevant question. If you ask irrelevant question, I would ask you to take your seat.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Through you I would like to ask the same question which was asked by Shri Fatmi just now.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: I want to submit that an agreement was reached between India and Nepal through which means of water were to be made available in North Bihar. Would the Hon. Minister state the progress made in this regard and by what time the Government is going to implement it?

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister has assured to send his reply to you in writing.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not an ordinary issue. The Hon. Minister must know about the agreement.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It does not come out of this question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that the Sone Irrigation Project is a very big one.

MR. SPEAKER: Please see, this is also going wrong.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Mr, Speaker, Sir, the issue of modernisation of the Sone River Project of the State of Bihar is lying pending before the Union Government. I, therefore, would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he proposes to modernise the Sone Water Project and if so, by what give it will be done?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have the information?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: No, sir, I do not have.

MR. SPEAKER: You get up and say that you do not have this information and you will send this.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I do not have this information. I will write to him.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Sir, I appreciate the keen concern of the Government for utilisation of irrigation water. With regard to wastage of water, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether he will give priority to adopt the modernisation schemes in those areas where the canal system is available but it has not been enhanced further to reach to the tale-end areas.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good question.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I have already submitted that we have already a Centrally-sponsored command area development scheme.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :Will you modernise and utilise the water on a larger scale?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, if the State Government sends any proposal....

MR. SPEAKER: So, the reply is 'yes'.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Yes, sir.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated about making arrangements for irrigation and other projects. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government that there are various areas in our country, like the hilly area in my Constituency, Mirzapur and the Gengetic plains, which spread from Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh to the hill areas of Bihar, where nothing grows due to the lack of irrigation facilities. Gandhiji in one of his books, Gram Swaraj has written how such areas can be irrigated low cost.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question. Do not go into the detail. How more irrigation can be done at low cost?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am coming to that point. How projects can be made in the hill areas and how the dam can be constructed on the riverlets flowing in the hill areas, and how the water can be harnessed by constructing small dams on the riverlets flowing in the plain areas and how irrigation can be done? Have you prepared any such draft plan in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: You ask him to do it soon.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It is a good suggestion, we will examine it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what has happened to any questions?

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied in affirmative ; you should be happy about it.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year, I had asked a question in the House that our water flows down to foreign countries and we cannot utilise it and in order to solve this problem a former Minister, Dr. K.L. Rao had prepared a scheme to form a grid of the rivers of the North and the South. Water can be supplied through this grid, wherever there is scarcity of water in any part of the country and the surplus water of the country can be utilised. I had asked the Hon. Minister whether that scheme is under consideration of the Government or it has left the idea. If the idea has not been dropped then I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that if gas can be supplied from Oman to our Country, then why a grid of the rivers of the Northern and Southern parts of our country can not be constructed so that the water of the country can be utilised ? Ours is an agricultural country. Does the Government contemplate to implement that scheme here or it has again been put in the cold storage.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, the Hon. Member is confusing between the recommendation of Capt. Dastoor and Dr. K.L. Rao. Capt. Dastoor recommended the Garland Canal Scheme and Dr. Rao recommended linking of Ganga-Cauvery. These two schemes have been found not feasible. That is why I have replied that we are examining two components- Himalayan Component and the Peninsula Component. On Peninsula Component, we have done fourteen studies. We want to first link the rivers between the basins, within the components.

Then only we can think of proceeding towards inter-region connections. First of all, we have to assess the availability of surplus water. These recommendations are made on the basis of certain presumptions. So, we want to first establish as to what is the actual availability of water in each basin. Then only we can prepare the schemes and get the concurrence of the State Governments. We can think of connecting Northern and

Southern rivers only after completing all these studies.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

High Grade Coal

*242. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to set up coal washeries to increase the availability of high grade coal in the country;

(b) if so, the total production capacity targeted to be installed in the country during the Eight Five Year Plan and the estimated total capital investment required for meeting the target;

(c) whether the Government have identified the sources for raising the required capital;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the expected availability of capital from each source, separately; and

(f) the total additional quantum of high grade coal likely to be available in the country at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan as compared to the quantum at the end of the Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). During balance period of the 8th Plan four coal washeries, two for coking coal and two for non-coking coal which are presently under construction in Coal India Limited will get commissioned. The estimated capital investment on these four washeries is Rs. 501.91 crores. The investment has been made partly out of the internal resources of Coal India Limited and partly by Government budgetary support.

(f) The estimated availability of washed (including direct feed) coking coal and superior grade non-coking coal from Coal India Limited in 1996-97 (Terminal Year of the 8th Plan) as compared to availability during 1989-90 (Terminal Year of the 7th Plan) is given below:

(Figures in million tonnes)

Grade	1989-90	1996-97	Projected increase
Washed coking coal (including direct feed)	9.05	12.43	3.38
Superior grade non-coking coal (A, B & C)	58.90	79.79	20.89