

Assistance from World Bank for providing Drinking Water in Gujarat

3284. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to offer finance for providing drinking water to about 3000 waterless villages of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Government has moved to get such help and on what terms?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No project for coverage of 3000 waterless villages in Gujarat for World Bank assistance has been received from the State Government. However, the State Government has prepared a project for World Bank assistance for coverage of 31 towns and 396 villages with water supply and 22 towns and 36 villages with sewerage and sanitation services. The project details have been forwarded to the World Bank.

Drinking Water within a radius of a mile in village of Maharashtra

3285. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Maharashtra and the number in which there is no supply of drinking water within a radius of one mile; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take the assistance of World Bank for a project to supply water to every village in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The number of villages in Maharashtra is 35778 as per the 1971 census. According to the State Government,

the total number of problem villages (i.e. villages with no source of water within a distance of 1.6 KM or a depth of 15 metres or villages where source of water is contaminated with disease/germs or where source of water contains excessive minerals hazardous to health) still to be covered with drinking water supply is 14025. No break-up showing the villages in which there is no water within a radius of one mile is available.

(b) It is contemplated to cover all the remaining problem villages within the period 1980—85 with the resources of the State and Central Governments. There is no proposal for obtaining World Bank Assistance to supply water in every village in Maharashtra.

Excavation at Kalna, Bihar

3286. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have information that very often very old articles of historical value are recovered from diggings by peasants at Kalna (Kalyaneshwar) under Uma-gaon block in Madhubani district of Bihar which is known as the first gate of entrance to the ancient capital of Mithila;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to undertake excavation of the site without further delay; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No excavation are proposed at present at this site as it does not fall in a problem oriented Scheme.