

List of Circles Which Surrendered Funds

(III) 1997-98

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Circles	Allot	Exp.	Surrender	%
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	13.51	9.95	—3.56	26.35
2.	Haryana	214.98	181.21	—33.77	15.71
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	54.63	52.51	—2.12	3.88
4.	Kerala	645.97	631.11	—14.86	2.30
5.	Orissa	168.39	167.28	—1.11	0.66
6.	Tamil Nadu	665.42	652.38	—13.04	1.96
7.	West Bengal	232.00	227.54	—4.46	1.92

*[Translation]***Flood Control**

575. SHRI ANUPLAL YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Bihar has requested the Union Government to formulate a scheme to tide over the problem of the flood prone areas of North Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Ground Water

576. SHRI KRISHAN LAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level in Delhi is going downward sharply;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the factors responsible for the same; and

(c) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to conserve the water resources in view of the growing needs of water in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown that both quantity and quality of ground water in Delhi has deteriorated due to over-exploitation. Ground water level has fallen upto 15 metres in some areas and shows a declining trend. During the last 10 years, the level of ground water has declined by 6-8 metres in Mehrauli block, 2-5 metres in Alipur, Najafgarh, Nangloi and City blocks and 1-2 metres in Shahdara block. The decline in level of ground water

in Delhi is mainly due to large scale withdrawals in excess of annual availability of replenishable ground water resources, variation in the amount and distribution of rainfall and reduction in recharge of ground water due to increased urbanisation.

(c) The steps taken by the Union Government to check the declining trend in ground water includes:

- (1) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development. The Authority has been holding periodical meetings to, inter-alia, advise the State and U.T. Governments to take suitable measures to check over-exploitation in view of decline in the level of ground water and to assist the Authority in discharging its functions. It has initiated the process of registration of ground water extraction structures in Delhi to make an assessment of withdrawals vis-a-vis availability of ground water. It has also taken various measures for creating mass awareness on the subject.
- (2) The Central Ground Water Board has prepared a report titled "Development and Augmentation of Ground Water Resources in National Capital Territory of Delhi." A copy of this report has been made available to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for taking following-up action.
- (3) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies on recharge of ground water in 'Over-exploited' areas of various States, including NCT of Delhi. In Delhi, the recharge studies are being carried out in Jawaharlal Nehru University and I.I.T., Delhi.
- (4) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories including NCT of Delhi to enable them to formulate area specific recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water level.
- (5) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories including NCT of Delhi to enable them to