

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4655

ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006

WATER CRISIS

Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is incurring heavy expenditure to complete the projects as per recommendations of Parthasarathi Committee, constituted to remove the water crisis;
- (b) if so, whether the Committee has recommended to spend Rs. 10 thousand crore in fifteen years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of rivers in the country at present whose average water level is decreasing; and
- (e) the efforts being made by the Government to replenish the depleting water level of rivers in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (c) Department of Land Resources has informed that the Department is implementing three watershed development programmes viz. Drought Prone Areas Programmes (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) for drought proofing, desertification control and development of wastelands respectively. A Technical Committee (Parthasarathy Committee) was set up by the Ministry of Rural Development in February 2005 to review these programmes and to suggest recommendations for strengthening them. The Department of Land Resources has further informed that the Committee submitted its report on 31.3.2006 which inter alia has recommended for integration of all the watershed programmes presently being implemented by different Ministries and suggested an annual investment of Rs. 10,000 crore every year, over a period of fifteen years.

(d) The water level at various sites in the rivers vary from year to year depending on the flow resulting from rain during the monsoon period and snowmelt etc. The water level data do not indicate any specific falling trend.

(e) Does not arise.