

Water Logging

**Joint Venture With Britain For Oil
Exploration**

7323. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any joint venture for oil exploration with Britain has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) the areas identified for exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

7324. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the problem of water logging, soil erosion, salinity and alkalined lands in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON):(a) Areas under problem of water logging, soil erosion, salinity and alkalined lands in Andhra Pradesh are:

i) Waterlogging	3.39 lakh hectares
ii) Soil erosion	115.02 lakh hectares
iii) Saline including Coastal Sandy areas	1.76 lakh hectares
iv) Alkali Soils	0.64 lakh hectares

(c) In this regard, various Programmes are going on in Andhra Pradesh. Major programmes include;

i) The Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development programmes operated by Command Area Development Division, Ministry of Water Resources.

ii) World Bank aided National Water Management Project.

iii) Centrally sponsored scheme of 'Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects' being operated by Soil and Water Conservation Division of Ministry of Agriculture.