

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and what steps are proposed to be taken to make full use of the ground water in irrigation ;

(c) whether setting up of a Central Ground Water Development Corporation was envisaged in the Sixth Plan in Eastern Uttar Pradesh where large untapped ground water potential existed as also in Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh ; and

(d) if so, what are details of the progress made by the Corporation and what further steps are in the offing to further tap the ground water ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Development of irrigation through ground water varies from State to State and is low in some of the States particularly in Eastern region. However, in Uttar Pradesh, substantial progress has been made in development or irrigation potential from ground water. In this State, against the present estimate of 120 lakh ha. as the ultimate irrigation potential in terms of irrigated area the likely achievement at the end of the VIth Plan is expected to be 114,14 lakh ha. which is roughly 95% of the present ultimate assessed potential.

(b) The low level of ground water development in some States is attributable to small and fragmented land holdings, lack of adequate number and suitable types of drilling rigs, non-availability of assured power supply, lack of maintenance facilities for the equipment and non-availability of institutional finance due to community ownership of land. State Governments are taking steps to accelerate ground water development by setting up repair and maintenance facilities for equipment, equisition of suitable types of drilling rigs and consolidation of land holdings. The Central Government is assisting the States in stepping up ground-water development by accelerating the pace of hydrogeological surveys and exploration and delineation of ground water-worthy areas and evaluation of potential. Central Government is also operating a scheme under which matching assistance is provided to the States for purchase of drilling and other equipment for ground water development.

(c) and (d) A proposal for setting up a Central Ground Water Development Corporation during the 6th Plan was approved by Planning Commission to undertake construction of production wells specially in the eastern and north-eastern States and hard rock areas. The proposal was, however, subsequently dropped because it was considered that the functions envisaged for the Corporation could be carried out better by suitable strengthening Central Ground Water Board and State organisations where suitable infrastructure is not available.

Better Management of land and Water in the command Areas of irrigation Projects

5027. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Command Area Development aimed at reducing the gap between created irrigation potential and utilisation thereof and to optimise agricultural production through better management of land and water in the command areas of Irrigation Projects ;

(b) whether some more projects were to be included in the programme in order to hasten utilisation of irrigation potential created on projects particularly those in the pipeline for assistance from the international institutions ;

(c) if so, what are the details of the achievements during the Sixth Plan period and how many farmers' associations were formed for land levelling and shaping, construction of field channels and distribution of water equitably ;

(d) whether water management was to be introduced in Universities and Colleges imparting courses in irrigation and irrigated agriculture ; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and what further steps are proposed in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional projects are included in the programme where lack of Command

area development is resulting in lag in utilisation. There is no bias in favour of including internationally aided projects.

(c) Details of achievements are as below :

| | (1000 ha.) |
|----------------|------------|
| Field channels | 8,323.19 |
| Land levelling | 1,598.32 |
| Warabandi | 1,669.64 |
| Field drains | 1,086.18 |

According to available information, in Gujarat 26 Farmers' Cooperative Societies have been formed for distribution of water equitably and maintenance of field channels and collection of water rates. In Uttar Pradesh Farmers Committees are set up at the time of carrying out On-Farm Development Works. In Maharashtra Outlet Committees are formed in all the C.A.D. Projects for the distribution of water. In Andhra Pradesh, the C.A.D. Act provides for constitution of Pipe Committees for every outlet.

(d) and (e) Water Management is already included as a subject in Universities and colleges imparting courses in irrigation and irrigated agriculture. In order to impart Water Management training to field functionaries of the Irrigation and Agriculture Departments, Water and Land Management Institutes have been set up in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Bihar and Tamil Nadu. A similar institute is also being set up in Uttar Pradesh.

Rail Link Phulbani-Bhubaneswar

5028. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Phulbani area in Orissa is very much neglected in the matter of rail lines ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is great need to provide Rail Link between Phulbani and Bhubaneswar ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) With a view to connect Bolangir with Bhubaneswar, a survey has been ordered for a broad gauge line from Khurda Road to Bolangir via Phulbani. Further action will be taken after the survey report is received and examined in consultation with Planning Commission, subject to availability of funds.

Providing a Stoppage of H. Nizamuddin-Bangalore Train at Belapur Station in Maharashtra

5029. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a new train has been started from H. Nizamuddin to Bangalore ;

(b) whether, considering the volume of traffic and the need for better communication Government propose to provide a stoppage of this train at Belapur Station ;

(c) if so, when ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Stoppage of Train No. 905/906 Jhazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore is not found justified as this is a long distance fast train and Belapur does not offer sufficient long distance passenger traffic for these trains.

Doubling of Daund-Manmad Rail line

5030. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Daund-Manmad railway is carrying an overload of both passengers and goods traffic ;