

*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

enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

- (6) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the States in artificial recharge of ground water. This scheme is at consultation stage.

[English]

#### **World Bank Assistance**

577. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan has been provided by the World Bank to the State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and U.P. to undertake water management projects in State recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made by each State to achieve the target fixed for completion of work?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra**

578. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN:

SHRI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is willing to open a motorable route to Kailash-Mansarovar in Tibet; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The possibility of providing an alternative route for the Yatra has been under discussion with the Chinese side since 1993.

We have proposed alternative routes through Shipki La (Himachal Pradesh) and the Demchok route through Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir). The Chinese side have indicated that our proposals for alternative routes are under consideration in consultation with the local authorities in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR). They have cited difficulties in opening new routes on the grounds that it would involve travel over much

longer distances over difficult terrain with poor road conditions and lack of proper infrastructure for accommodation and communications. They have also expressed the view that development of infrastructure in these remote areas would not be an easy task and building facilities for alternative routes could take a long time. It could lead to a substantial escalation in the fee charged from Indian pilgrims (currently frozen at US \$500 per pilgrim until the year 2000 A.D.).

On the India side Government are willing to consider all possible routes, including the motorable option, taking into account the availability of infrastructure, logistical facilities and other relevant factors. Our efforts to open a new route are continuing.

#### **Irrigation Projects in J & K**

579. SHRI VISHNU DATT VAIDYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects of the National Water Management are under implementation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the date of implementation, cost of each project and the total area of land which is likely to be irrigated after the completion of the said projects?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Sardar Sarovar Dam**

580. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of construction of Sardar Sarovar vis-a-vis the progress on upstream R & R works;

(b) whether the Sardar Sarovar Dam did not attain an obligatory minimum water level of 110 metre so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to attain the prescribed water level;

(d) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been extending its cooperation for the resettlement of the oustees of the project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the other measures being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) At present, effective height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is being maintained at EL81.5m. The progress upto 15.10.1998 on upstream Resettlement and Rehabilitation at the full height of Dam is as under: