

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2118
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014
IRRIGATION IN A N ISLANDS
Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the kutchha wells in Neil and Havelock Islands of the UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are proposed to be converted into pucca wells for irrigation purpose as per the slogan of the Prime Minister `HarKhet Mein Paani` and if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;
- (b) whether ground water level in Little Andaman of the UT of A&N Islands is going down every year and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the Kalpong Tail Water Scheme project will be completed for irrigation purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION;
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TEXTILES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE). (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

- (a) Water is a State subject and it is for the State Governments to plan, implement and run irrigation projects in their respective States. UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has not forwarded any proposal for converting Kutchha wells into Pukka wells. At present there is no such scheme in this Ministry.
- (b) No Madam. There is no declining trend in ground water in UT of A&N islands.
- (c) As per information provided by UT of A&N islands, the water available at the tail-end of KalpongTali water scheme should be made available to river in the downstream stretch, otherwise this may cause significant impact on the riparian ecology of downstream. Hence, the irrigation project in absence of environmental clearance could not be taken up.