

ho jayaga Jaipur mein Bhujal" appearing in the *Rashtriya Sahara*, dated May 8, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether any study has been conducted or any plan prepared to harvest rain water for recharging of ground water; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement the said plan expeditiously?

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 a situation of both rise and fall in the level of ground water in Jaipur area. There has been excessive withdrawals of ground water in some parts of the city exceeding the normal replenishment which has led to progressive decline of 5-10 metres during the last decade. The decline has not been of 120-25 metres as mentioned in the report published in *Rashtriya Sahara* of 10.5.98. Presently, water is available at a depth of 15-40 metres in various parts of Jaipur. The position regarding availability of water in Vidya Nagar, Vishwakarma, Vaishali Nagar, C. Scheme Area, Civil Lines and Tonk Phatak is given in the enclosed Statement. Keeping in view the static reserve and normal replenishment, withdrawal @ 270 M.L. per day or non supply of water from the Bisalpur Project is not likely to result in exhausting of ground water resources in Jaipur in the next five years.

(c) and (d) Central Ground Water Board has recently conducted studies in ground water recharge, including rain water harvesting, in the states of Karnataka, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh. Various programmes of water management and water harvesting techniques prepared and under implementation by various departments of the Government include :

1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation :

- (i) Soil Conservation in Catchments of River Valley Project.
- (ii) Soil Conservation in Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers.
- (iii) National Watershed Development Project for rainfed agriculture.
- (iv) Watershed Management in Areas of Shifting Cultivation.

2. Department of Waste Land Development :

- (i) Integrated Watershed Development Programme.

3. Department of Rural Employment & Poverty Alleviation :

- (i) Drought Prone Area Programme.
- (ii) Desert Development Programme.

Statement

Location	Depth of ground water level in metres			
	May 1996	Jan. 1997	May 1997	Jan. 1998
1. Vishwakarma	36.75	36.71	36.78	37.20
2. Vidyadhar Nagar	36.46	35.27	35.29	not measured
3. Vaishali Nagar area	30.11	28.61	28.82	28.80
4. C-Scheme area	16.93	18.16	18.51	14.60
5. Civil lines	17.00	18.16	18.51	14.51
6. Tonk Phatak	14.45	13.57	14.45	14.60

[Translation]

Cauvery Water Dispute

1114. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Alagh to solve the Cauvery water dispute;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government ;

(c) the details of the recommendations suggested by the Committee in this regard ; and

(d) the reaction of the government thereto ?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Linking of Rivers

1115. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the project of connecting River Mahanadi and Malaprabha has come to the notice of the Government;