(e) the extent to which the Union Government have agreed to provide assistance and help to the State Government in the State?

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

(b) Does not arise;

(c) Union Government provides technical assistance to farmers through training, conferences and workshops;

(d) Application of water at right time and space with proper methods and adequate quantity in an integrated manner with surface and ground water are the low cost technologies of efficient water management. These are used by farmers at many places with good results; and

(e) Under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme Ministry of Water Resources, provides Central assistance to the States as one time functional grant @ Rs. 500.00 per hectare (to be shared @ Rs. 225.00 per ha. by Centre, Rs. 225.00 per ha. by State and Rs. 50.00 per ha. by the farmers) to encourage farmers' participation in the irrigation water management. Central assistance is also provided to States for creation of awareness among farmers through various activities.

Minor Irrigation Projects

1148. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision was taken for extending the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for minor irrigation projects during finalisation of Annual rian of Tripura: and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Under the existing Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) guidelines, the Major, Medium Irrigation and Multi purpose projects fulfilling the eligibility criteria are eligible for Central Loan Assistance. While finalising the Scheme of Financing of the Annual Plan 1998-99 of Tripura an amount of Rs. 40 crore was indicated for

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AIBP (including Minor Irrigation Schemes) subject to sanction of schemes and utilisation by the State. The inclusion of Minor Irrigation Schemes under AIBP funding in respect of North-Eastern States and Hilly States of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir as well as drought prone area earlier known as KBK (Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi) Districts of Orissa is currently under consideration of the Government.

Ground Water

1149. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has launched a scheme, "Studies in Recharge of Ground Water" in the country particularly in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any improvement in increasing ground water in the States has been noticed after the implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) A scheme for "studies in Recharge of Ground Water" has been launched in certain states of the country, which does not include Assam.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board had started a Central Sector Scheme on Pilot basis in 1994-95 for studies in artificial recharge of ground water in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Koraia, Madhya Pradesh, Maharasritra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh. The studies were completed in 1997-98 at a total cost of Rs. 3.297 crores. State-wise and Year-wise break up of the amount spent on these studies is shown in the attached statement. Based on the results of these studies, the Government have recently decided to extend this scheme for studies in artificial recharge of ground water to some more areas of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh at an estimated Cost of Rs. 25 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) The studies carried out by the Central Ground Water Board have shown improvement in the ground water levels ranging from 2 to 7 metres benefitting an area of 15 to 200 ha. in Amravati and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra; 16 to 36 ha. in Kolar district of Karnataka; 9 to 30 ha. in Jawaharlal Nehn, University Campus and

Indian Institute of Technology Campus in National Capital Territory of Delhi.

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State-wise and Year-wise break-up of Expenditure on the Central Sector Scheme of Studies in Artificial Recharge of Ground Water.

Statement

(Amount in Rupees)

| 9. | UT of Chandigarh | - | _ | 2,22,000 | 5,28,000 | 7,50,000 |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 8. | NCT of Delhi | 2,12,000 | 35,41,257 | 28,64,3 99 | 5,12,361 | 71,30,0 17 |
| 7. | West Bengal | - | | 99,250 | 38 ,250 | 1,37,500 |
| 6. | Tamil Nadu | - | _ | 8,50,000 | 6,50,000 | 15,00,000 |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 57,64,000 | 42,26,280 | 10,92,933 | 2,20,802 | 1,13,04,015 |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | - | | 7,12,500 | 4,64,000 | 11,76,500 |
| 3. | Kerala | - | _ | 6,88,273 | 24,35,000 | 31,23,273 |
| 2. | Kamataka | 39,49,459 | 16,61,957 | 13,64,690 | 6,60,265 | 76,36,37 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | - | | 2,12,000 | - | 2,12,00 |
| SI. No. | Name of the State/UT | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | Total |

Plan Allocation to Maharashtra

1150. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the Union Government for Maharashtra for annual plan of 1997-98 and 1998-99; (b) the details of amount provided during this period;

(c) whether the Maharashtra Government was provided lesser amount in comparison to the amounts sanctioned to it earlier;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the amount sanctioned and released;