

skill, will the Minister think in terms of opening some more institutions with an aim to earn more and more foreign exchange and to provide employment for skilled pilots ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I am quite satisfied with the avenues for our Indian pilots.

SHRI C.P. THAKUR : How many trained pilots are unemployed at the moment ? The centrally instituted Airports Authority...

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think that this flows out of the present question.

Use of underground water reserves

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*157. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL;
SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have tapped/ carried out a survey to find the underground water reserves in the country ;

(b) if so, the details of such a study and the areas covered by such a study State-wise ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to exploit the underground reserves of water ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). The Central Ground Water Board is undertaking hydrogeological surveys and exploratory drilling to determine the nature and extent of groundwater aquifers, their yield potential for further development, the quality of water and for providing basic data for preparation of groundwater development schemes. Out of the total geographical area of 32.88 lakh sq. km. of the country, an area of 20.32 lakh sq. km. was covered under hydrogeological surveys and 5,197 exploratory boreholes were drilled by the CGWB upto March, 1985. State-wise details are given below :

Regional Hydrogeological Surveys & Exploratory Drilling.

S. No.	State	Hydrogeological Surveys		Exploratory Drilling	
		Area (in sq. km.)	Area covered Upto March, 1985 (in sq. km.)	Estimated No. of boreholes to be drilled.	No. of boreholes drilled till March, 1985.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,75,068	1,62,225	1,650	642
2.	Assam	78,438	65,845	320	134
3.	Bihar	1,73,877	1,70,049	1,400	179
4.	Gujarat	1,96,024	1,29,379	900	392
5.	Haryana	44,212	44,212	500	464
6.	Himachal Pradesh	55,673	24,293	200	38
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,22,236	28,505	200	130
8.	Karnataka	1,91,791	1,06,119	1,100	269

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Kerala	38,863	35,970	300	103
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4,43,446	1,27,910	3,100	521
11.	Maharashtra	3,07,690	1,44,631	1,700	288
12.	Manipur	22,327	6,600	30	10
13.	Meghalaya	72,429	8,500	150	16
14.	Negaland	16,579	2,850	80	12
15.	Orissa	1,55,707	1,35,483	1,310	122
16.	Punjab	50,367	50,362	450	257
17.	Rajasthan	3,42,239	3,22,676	1,500	553
18.	Sikkim	7,096	1,075	20	4
19.	Tamil Nadu	1,30,058	72,670	700	297
20.	Tripura	10,486	10,477	80	51
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2,94,411	2,72,559	1,500	460
22.	West Bengal	88,752	84,223	500	120
Total (States)		31,67,769	20,06,613	17,690	5,062
Total (U.T's)		1,19,499	25,107	310	135
Grand Total :		32,87,268	20,31,720	18,000	5,197

(c) Water is a state subject and schemes for exploitation of the ground water resources are planned, funded and implemented by the respective States. However, to assist the States in speedy development of their ground water potential, besides macro-level hydrogeological surveys and exploratory drilling for ground water, Government of India is assisting the State Governments in obtaining loans from international financing agencies for exploitation of ground water. In addition, Government of India has also been operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which matching assistance is provided to the States for the purchase of drillings rigs and other equipments for accelerating the development of ground water.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : The hon. Minister has given a detailed statement with regard to the part related to survey and has stated in reply to part (c) of the question that it is a State subject. I agree with him, but I want to know one thing from the hon. Minister—what will be the effect of exploitation of ground water resources with the passage of time? So far as I understand, with the installation of tube wells, the water table falls considerably and after some-time, the tubewell stops functioning. I want to know whether Government are contemplating any scheme to ensure that ground water table does not fall considerably so that the people continue to get

drinking water and their private tube-wells continue to function. I also want to know whether Government are formulating any scheme for storage of rain water during rainy season to solve this problem; if so, the details thereof may please be given ?

[*English*]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir the question is about the survey and explorative work of the ground water in the country. As I have already said that we have completed about 20,31,720 sq. kms. out of the total area of 32,87,268 sq. kms. of the country and the rest of the area is proposed to be covered by the end of the Seventh Plan. The entire explorative work and the survey will be, we hope, completed by 1995.

The hon. Member has asked about the effect of the ground water. The experience is that the water that we receive was from the total precipitation and the water that we are exploiting i.e. the underground water are not the same. It has been experienced that over-exploitation of the ground water has led the water table going down and down every year. So we have to find out something to see that recharging is done in proportion to the exploitation of the water.

MR. SPEAKER : By matching.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : I had also asked whether Government propose to formulate any scheme to store the rain water which goes waste, which is not put to any use, which poses problem for us in the form of floods every year, so that the villagers are encouraged to dig ponds and the people who thus construct ponds are compensated by Government by meeting a part of the expenditure. I think, the problem can be solved in this way. The hon. Minister may consider it and get a survey conducted in this regard. The people will benefit from this and the economic condition of the country will be strengthened.

[*English*]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, the hon. Member is interested in knowing about the provision of water at the village level for drinking purposes. It is not linked with this question.

PROF. N.G RANGA : Is anything on large scale being done to exploit the underground water in Rajasthan desert ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : That is exactly the survey work we are doing. We have been surveying the position of ground water throughout the country and the exploratory work is going to cover Rajasthan also.

MR. SPEAKER : He has asked the question for me.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): Sir, he had announced that Padma Shree is being given.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I have to refer Padma Shree to him.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Now you give Padma Shree to him.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, the farmers who are depending upon wells for irrigation have to go deep in order to get water to exploit underground water. Automatically, the water table goes down and down. The hon. Minister has stated that we have to recharge again. The volume of water that we are taking, the recharge also must be on the same volume. Then only we will be getting water. What is the alternative proposal for the Government of India for re-charging water in order to have more water for the farmers who are depending on wells for irrigation ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Re-charging water for making it available for irrigation purpose is something which is dependent on various factors : first development part, precipitation for general purpose, then soil, geological condi-

tions, climate, topography. So, all these factors are going to contribute for the availability of water for irrigation purposes.

[Translation]

SHRI UMA KANT MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many areas where water table goes down considerably during February-March and consequently the wells go dry leading to shortage of drinking water. There are many such areas in the country. Gyanpur Tehsil in my constituency has a population of 8 lakhs.

MR. SPEAKER : In my constituency also, this problem is there.

SHRI UMA KANT MISHRA : Water levels in the wells in these areas falls considerably during February-March. The same is the situation in Vidyapur area. If this situation continues, the people will not get drinking water. I have raised this issue a number of times in the past also ; it should be given a serious consideration. The solution to this is that canals should be constructed in which water could flow or else big tanks should be built so that the water level in the wells does not fall and the availability of drinking water to the people is ensured. This scheme needs to be taken up on a large scale, on a national scale, otherwise a severe drinking water crisis will arise. The Government should give it a serious consideration as it happens to be the question of drinking water.

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : On drinking water, the Housing Minister, at the moment, will be able to say more. But, I am happy to see that the House has expressed its grave concern about the availability of water, which previously used to be free ; now it is not free ; we have to buy water, whether for drinking purpose or for irrigation purpose. Water is no more free as it used to be. Therefore, we should see that it is not wasted.

Compensation Paid to Relatives of Kanishka Crash Victims

*158. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) was any compensation or relief provided to the kith and kin of the victims of the Air India's Kanishka disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether General Insurance Corporation of India also paid any amount to them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, Air India's Kanishka aircraft had 307 passengers and 22 crew members on board. Till 21st November, 1985 Air India have received claims for compensation from the next of kin of 73 passengers only. An amount of Rs. 1.29 crore has been paid in settlement of the compensation in respect of 32 passengers and the remaining 41 cases are being processed for settlement. Claims in respect of remaining 234 deceased passengers have not been received as yet.

As regards crew members an amount of Rs. 65.08 lakhs has been paid in settlement of the cases of 16 crew members. Remaining six cases of crew members are in the process of being settled.

(c) and (d). While General Insurance Corporation of India is reimbursing Air India fully in the amount of compensation paid in respect of deceased passengers, compensation in respect of crew members is being absorbed by Air India as the crew are covered under the Corporation's Self Insurance Scheme.