

members of different Ministries /Departments/ Organizations/ Institutions of Government of India. The Central Ground Water Authority do not exercise any powers/ regulatory measures to check the effectiveness in terms of rise in ground water level of watershed managements projects. The Central Ground Water Authority excercises following powers and perform functions namely:

- (i) Exercise of powers under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for issuing directions and taking such measures in respect of all matters referred to in sub-section (2) of section 3 of the said Act.
- (ii) To resort to penal provisions contained in section 15 to 21 of the said Act.
- (iii) To regulate and control, management and development of ground water in the country and to issue necessary regulatory directions for the purpose.
- (iv) Exercise of powers under section 4 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the appointment of officers.

Considering the severity of the exploitation and in order to restrict further exploitation of ground water, some of highly over exploited areas are Notified by Central Ground Water Authority for regulation of ground water withdrawal. The Central Ground Water Authority has so far notified 162 areas in the country for the purpose of regulation of ground water development.

New road connectivity in Andhra Pradesh

4301. SHRI Y.S CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government for sanction of 1,580 road works under new connectivity category;
- (b) if so, the details and the status thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by Government to sanction these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since the year 2000. The Programme envisages single all-weather connectivity to the unconnected habitations in the Core Network in the rural areas with a population of 500 persons and above (as per 2001 census) in plain areas and 250 persons and above (as per 2001 census) in Hill States, the Desert Areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme), the Tribal (Schedule V) areas and selected Tribal and Backward Districts as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission under Integrated Action Plan (IAP). PMGSY guidelines stipulate that the State Governments are required to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and forward them to this Ministry after due consideration of the various aspects given in PMGSY Guidelines and clarification issued thereon. However, no proposal for sanction of 1,580 road works for New Connectivity from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is pending in the Ministry for consideration. Further, the Ministry has recently issued a sanction to Andhra Pradesh under Phase-X- Batch-II (New Connectivity) of PMGSY amounting to Rs. 452.31 crores for 154 road works and 34 Long Span Bridges covering 735.16 km length.

Upgradation of roads in Andhra Pradesh

4302. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal for upgradation of roads from Andhra Pradesh Government under PMGSY;
- (b) if so, the status thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by Government for sanction of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since the year 2000. The Programme envisages single all-weather connectivity to the unconnected