GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2054 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST AUGUST. 2023

IRRIGATION PROBLEM

2054. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problem related to irrigation being faced by the farmers in mining areas of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of the steps being taken by the Government to solve the said problem in such areas?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) & (b): The Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India has issued the guidelines for control and regulation of groundwater extraction with pan-India applicability. As per the guidelines:
 - i. All existing as well as new mining projects will be required to obtain No Objection Certificate for ground water abstraction.
 - ii. It is mandatory for all the mining industries to ensure that water available from de-watering operations is properly treated and should be gainfully utilized for supply for irrigation, dust suppression, mining process, recharge in downstream and for maintaining e-flows in the river system.
 - iii. The proponent shall monitor ground water levels by establishing observation wells (piezometers) in the core and buffer zones as specified in the No Objection Certificate (NOC).
 - iv. In case of coal and other base metal mining the project proponent shall use the advance dewatering technology (by construction of series of dewatering abstraction structures) to avoid contamination of surface water.

Further, it is mandatory that the project proponents of mining project shall submit the Hydrogeological report for obtaining NOC which includes the proposed usage of pumped water in case of mining dewatering projects.
