

only after the finalization of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for “Jal Marg Vikas” project. However, the project would be implemented in a manner that the present aquatic life, bio-diversity, pisciculture etc. in the River Ganga is maintained.

Ganga rejuvenation in West Bengal

3301.SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of plan proposed by Government for Ganga Rejuvenation in West Bengal;
- (b) whether any other rivers flowing through the State would also be added up in this plan; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (c) The Union Government has set up “Namami Gange”, an Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission for Rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries flowing through the basin States including the State of West Bengal. Incorporating the existing projects under the NGRBA, the Ganga rejuvenation plan provides for ‘Short-term’ (3 years), ‘Medium-term’ (5 years) and ‘Long-term’ (10 years and more) action plan in collaboration with different Ministries and States.

The projects and activities under this plan include pollution abatement measures for different sources of pollution, river front development, afforestation and conservation of aquatic life, communication and public outreach, water quality monitoring etc. and enforcement of standards and other policy initiatives for ensuring Aviral and Nirmal Ganga.

Nepal river interlink with Yamuna

3302.SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Nepal river would be interlinked with Yamuna; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL

JAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Sarda River, which is known as Mahakali river in Nepal, is identified for linking with river Yamuna as Sarda-Yamuna link. Further, the Ghaghra river, which is known as Karnali river in Nepal, is also identified for linking with river Yamuna as Ghaghra- Yamuna link. Both these links are identified under the Himalayan River Component of the National Perspective Plan (NPP) which has been formulated by this Ministry in 1980 for inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/ areas.

Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies in Andhra Pradesh

3303.SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no fund has been released to Andhra Pradesh for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies after 2010-11; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No funds have been released to Andhra Pradesh for revival of water bodies under the scheme of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies after 2010-11, as the State Government has not fully utilized the ₹189 crore released to them during 2010-11 till date and therefore, does not fulfill the criteria laid down in RRR guidelines for further release.

Backward irrigation district

3304.SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has undertaken a study of backward irrigation districts in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Bolangir in Odisha falls under this category; and

(c) the details of steps taken in such districts to ensure provision of irrigation facilities to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) As per the data maintained by the Ministry of Rural Development, 972 blocks in 183 Districts are covered under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP). Out of this, 8 Blocks of Bolangir District of Odisha are covered under DPAP.