

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.