

Action Plan (YAP). Under YAP-I and YAP-II, an expenditure of ₹ 1514.70 crore has been incurred for creation of new sewage treatment capacity of 942.25 million litres per day (mld) in the States of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

In addition, a sum of ₹ 1656 crore has been approved for Delhi under YAP-III for rehabilitation and upgradation of existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) (950 mld) and trunk sewers. This has been further supplemented by Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) for ₹ 1357 crore for an interceptor sewer project to intercept and treat untreated sewage flowing into river Yamuna from three major drains namely Najafgarh, Supplementary and Shahdara.

Besides these, two projects have been sanctioned in Sonapat and Panipat towns at a cost of ₹ 217.87 crore for pollution abatement of river Yamuna. The main project components include construction of new STPs of 70 mld capacity and rehabilitation of existing STPs of 75 mld capacity. The works are being implemented by Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Haryana.

Interlinking of rivers

1698. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by Government during the last one year on interlinking of rivers;

(b) the quantum of extra water available in the process during this period; and

(c) the difficulties encountered especially in linking Mahanadi and Godavari rivers and the steps taken to solve the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) In order to address various issues concerning the Inter-Linking of River Programme and to arrive at a consensus on the link proposals between the States, a Special Committee on Interlinking of Rivers, has been constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in September, 2014. Three meetings of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) have been held so far, wherein, State Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers along with the Secretaries of various States attended the meeting. The Committee after considering the views of all the stakeholders is proceeding ahead to expedite the objectives of interlinking rivers as per terms of reference of the Committee.

Further, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has also constituted a “Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers” *vide* Office Memorandum dated 13.04.2015, to look into issues relating to Inter linking of Rivers.

Based on the concurrence of the concerned States, Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for Ken-Betwa Link, Damanganga-Pinjal links have been completed by NWDA. The various clearances including environmental clearance for Ken-Betwa link project are at advance stages. Regarding Damanganga-Pinjal link, the Hon’ble Minister (MoWR, RD and GR) held a meeting with the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra at Mumbai on 7th January, 2015 to expedite the further course of action. In addition, DPRs for Ponnair-Palar Link of Tamil Nadu, Wainganga-Nalganga Link of Maharashtra and Barakar-Damodar-Subernarekha Link of Jharkhand have also been taken up for preparation.

The quantum of extra water available can be ascertained only after the projects are implemented and become operational.

Mahanadi-Godavari link is main link of nine links system of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Palar-Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar linkages. NWDA has completed feasibility report of these links. Government of Odisha has concerns on Mahanadi-Godavari link due to considerable submergence involved in proposed Manibhadra Dam. To address the concerns of Government of Odisha, NWDA has now prepared alternative proposals for Mahanadi-Godavari link with reduced submergence.

Discharge of waste into Ganga and its tributaries

†1699. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that dirty water of nullahs and toxic waste of industrial units are being dumped in the Ganga and its tributaries including Yamuna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent it;

(d) whether Government would declare such dumpings in the rivers as serious offence and would make provisions of severe punishment therefor;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.