

issues concerning the Inter-Linking of River Programme and to arrive at a consensus on ILR proposals between the States, recently three Sub-Committees and “Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers” have also been constituted. In accordance with the direction given by the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers which have already met five times so far during last 10 months, efforts are on to build consensus on Mahanadi – Godavari Link, which is a first and critical link of nine link system of Mahanadi - Godavari - Krishna - Pennar - Cauvery - Vaigai - Gundar under Peninsular Component of NPP. The Government of Odisha was not agreeable for the Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link due to large submergence involved in Manibhadra dam proposed under the link project. Based on the suggestions of Water Resources Department, Government of Odisha, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has prepared a revised preliminary proposal of Mahanadi-Godavari Link Project with reduced submergence and presented to Government of Odisha on 29.05.2015. The remaining links of the above nine link system including the Krishna (Srisaïlam) – Pennar water link project depends on Mahanadi-Godavari Link Project are envisaged after finalization of Mahanadi-Godavari Link Project.

Soil erosion by river Godavari and Tapti

1590. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment has been made by the Central Government to check soil erosion by rivers Godavari and Tapti and its tributaries during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the effective steps taken or proposed to be taken to check soil erosion by the said rivers in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has not made any assessment to check soil erosion by rivers Godavari and Tapi. Flood management including assessment of soil erosion due to rivers being a State subject, the related studies are carried out by the concerned States.

(d) The Schemes for erosion control are formulated by the concerned State Government. The Union Government supplements their efforts by providing assistance

in the form of technical advice and financial assistance for management of floods and erosion in critical areas.

In 2011, a project namely, "Flood Protection Works for Lendi Nalla at Katol Town in Nagpur district of Maharashtra" having an estimated cost of ₹ 24.37 crore was received from Government of Maharashtra. Although it had been techno-economically cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry, a proper proposal, in accordance with the laid down norms, with all mandatory clearances was not received from the State Government in the Ministry, for funding under FMP.

Implementation of Ganga Yojana

†1591. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had constituted 120 special teams of various agencies for the implementation of Ganga Yojana;
- (b) the number of places identified by the special teams on banks of Ram Ganga and Yamuna;
- (c) whether the said teams have recommended closure of 118 drains (nallahas) in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (e) the date of inception of Ganga cleanliness campaign and the progress made by it?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted special teams to assess the quantum of pollution caused by big drains in Ganga Basin and their possible solutions. They were also to report the status of sewage treatment plants (STPS) and need for modernization. The field survey was conducted during 04-08 December, 2014 by the teams of various institutions like NIH, CWC, CSMRS, NWDA, CGWB and NPCC.

(b) The teams identified 144 grossly polluting drains in 5 Ganga States (Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal) directly discharged to the river Ganga.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.