13th April 2016 between this Ministry and Germany through its representative agency Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (GIZ India), as part of Indo German Cooperation for Ganga Rejuvenation.

The objective of the Indo-German Cooperation is to integrate various approaches in the implementation of the Namami Gange Programme by providing support at National and state level particularly for the Uttarakhand State.

The Project is for a period of three years and the activities to be covered under this agreement are (i) Technical knowledge/expert exchange, (ii) Information/data management, (iii) Public outreach/communication and (iv) Capacity building at National and State level.

Germany has committed 3 million Euro technical assistance for Ganga Rejuvenation.

The main reason for seeking international support is to learn and adapt best practices/ technological knowhow and institutional/ governance framework available across the globe so as to ensure optimal utilization of the resources available for Ganga Rejuvenation.

Acute problem of soil erosion

1758. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Sitabdiara is facing acute problem of soil erosion at the meeting place of Ghaghra and Saryu rivers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a spot inspection was carried out of this place in April, 2015 and engineers of Water Resource Department of Sasaram district were part of that team; and
- (c) if so, whether the inspection report has been submitted to the Central Government and if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken thereon to protect this historical place from the menace of soil erosion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Due to shifting of river Ghaghra towards right bank in the downstream of Jayaprabha bridge, the problems of erosion and resulting flood damages at Sitabdiara have been reported by the State Government since the year, 2010.

(b) and (c) On 3rd July, 2015, a Team of the officers of Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) under the Ministry and concerned officers of Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar inspected the Ghaghra river site near Sitabdiara village for assessment of the problems of flood and erosion. The team observed that the Governments of UP and Bihar were undertaking anti-erosion works and other flood management measures

in their respective portions. The two States were asked to prepare a combined Detailed Project Report (DPR) to address the problem of flood and erosion at Sitabdiara.

Special scheme for providing water to every farm

†1759. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to formulate any Special Scheme to provide water to each and every farm;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction, till date; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) During 2015-16, Central Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) to improve access to irrigation and mitigate risk of farmers by providing assured irrigation. The PMKSY has the following components:

- Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)
- PMKSY (Har Khet Ko Pani)
- PMKSY (Per Drop More Crop)
- PMKSY (Watershed Development)

The PMKSY envisages enhancement of irrigation facilities in an area of 28.5 lakh hectare by 2019-20

Linking of Ken-Betwa, Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada

†1760. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of rivers Government is planning to link artificially and the names of projects including Ken-Betwa, Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada link in which work is in progress;
 - (b) whether it is a fact that all the projects are lagging much behind their target;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor, and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure timely completion of river linking projects, as per fixed target?

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.