

(b) if so, by when the work is planned to be started so that farmers may get relief; and

(c) the steps Government is taking for the storage of water and management of other sources if it is contemplating any such scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, planning, execution, operation and maintenance of water resources projects are undertaken by the concerned State Governments as per their own resources and priorities. In order to supplement the efforts of State Governments, MoWR, RD & GR provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes of this Ministry such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies, Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) etc. under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) etc.

Arjun Sahayak Project of Uttar Pradesh and Bariyarpur, Singhpur and Sindh Phase-II irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh benefitting Bundelkhand area, have been included under AIBP for providing Central Assistance, during the current year.

This Ministry is working on Ken-Betwa Interlinking of rivers project. This project is likely to irrigate an area of 6.35 lakh ha. in the districts of Chhatarpur, Panna, Tikamgarh in M.P. and Mahoba, Jhansi, Banda in U.P. in the Bundelkhand region. In addition, it will provide drinking water facilities to 1.4 million people in the area. The estimated cost of the project is ₹ 18000 crores. The project has received in principle clearance of the Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife.

#### **Four laning of Vilraya-Panvari road in Uttar Pradesh**

†\*164. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the roads identified by Government for the purpose of four-laning of National Highways in the country; and

(b) whether Vilraya-Panvari road in Uttar Pradesh has been selected under this project and if so, the details regarding the commencement of work?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) The Ministry has taken up various phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Phases-I, II and III of NHDP are primarily concerned with four laning of National Highways (NHs). Further, selected NH stretches have been taken up for four laning under NHDP Phase-IV. The present status of progress of projects under these programmes is as follows:

NHDP Phase	Total Length (km.)	Length Completed (km.)	Length under Implementation (km.)	Length to be awarded (km.)
I	7,522	7,521	1	0
II	6,647	5,954	438	255
III	12,172	7,006	3,388	1,778
IV*	6,102	984	4,488	630
TOTAL	32,443	21,465	8,315	2,663

\*Length selected for upgradation to 4-lane NH standard

Four-laning of about 580 km. length of NHs are included under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North East Region (SARDP-NE) including Arunachal Pradesh Package of Roads. Projects in about 353 km. length have commenced for Four-laning under these programmes; out of this projects in about 76 km. length have been completed.

Recently, the threshold traffic for Four-laning of NHs have been reduced from 15,000; 11,000; and 8,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) per day to 10,000; 8,500 and 6,000 PCUs/day for Plain, Rolling, and Mountainous/Steep Terrains respectively.

(b) The Vilraya-Panvari road in the State of Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) is not an NH. This is a State road. State Government of U.P. is responsible for its development and maintenance.

However, the Ministry has approved project for strengthening of about 24 km. length of roads falling within this stretch for ₹ 36.53 crore in March, 2016 under the Central Road Fund (CRF) scheme of the Ministry.

#### **Electrification of villages**

\*165. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some un-electrified villages were included and counted as electrified villages in rural electrification data published by Government recently;