

As on 30.06.2016, a total of 8214 watershed projects have been sanctioned under the scheme covering an area of 39.07 million ha. and an amount of ₹ 12821.66 crore has been released as Central assistance to various States. These projects are in different stages of implementation. This scheme is not being implemented in any of the Union Territories, including the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

**MoU between GAIL with Paradip Port Trust**

1633. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MoU which was signed between Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) with Paradip Port Trust (PPT) on 26th October, 2013 to set up a floating storage, regasification unit, floating off shore, jetty, off-shore pipeline, on-shore pipeline, receiving and metering facilities and LNG re-gasification terminal at Paradip Port would expire on 26th October, 2016;

(b) whether PPT would renew the MoU with GAIL in order to continue the above mentioned projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Requisite clearance and approvals are being expedited in connection with the proposal.

**Agricultural employment for rural workers**

1634. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many days of agricultural employment is given to the rural workers throughout the country;

(b) how many of them are agricultural workers; and

(c) how many of the rural workers are getting minimum wages in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) As per the information shared by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, the data is not available with National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). However, from the results of the latest Employment-Unemployment

survey (EUS), conducted during its 68th round (July, 2011 - June, 2012), it was estimated that in rural areas, on an average in a week, number of person-days in current daily status (cds) engaged in agricultural sector was 1141.18 million.

(b) As per the information available from the results of the latest Employment-Unemployment Survey (EUS), it was estimated that number of workers in rural areas in usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) engaged in agricultural sector was 198.16 million.

(c) The NSSO does not maintain a record of number of rural workers getting minimum wages in the country.

#### **Revival of Buckingham canal network**

1635. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made plans to revive the old Buckingham canal and other canals which were operational prior to 1950;
- (b) the details of studies that have been done to revive this canal network;
- (c) whether funds have been allocated for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details of plans and schedules to revive the network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) The Buckingham Canal and irrigation canals from Kakinada to Pedaganjam integrated with Godavari and Krishna rivers have been declared as National Waterway-4 (NW-4).

Based on the financial viability and support from the concerned State Governments, NW-4 will be developed in a phased manner. This also includes irrigation canals from Kakinada to Vijayawada and the stretch of Krishna river from Muktyala to Vijayawada.

The following studies pertaining to the Buckingham and Irrigation canals of NW-4 have been undertaken:

- (i) Detailed Project Report (DPR) by M/s WAPCOS in 2010.
- (ii) Detailed Hydrographic surveys during 2013-15
- (iii) Project Development Consultancy (PDC) for development of NW-4 in PPP mode through M/s Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd during 2015-16.

A sum of ₹ 4.50 crore has been allotted in 2016-17 for development of NW-4.