- Revised restoration of Launching apron of spur no. 5 of Nepal Bund as per recommendation of 48th GHLSC.
- 7. Restoration and extension of bed bar no. 5-A and 5-B of Nepal bund as per site condition.

## Clearance for Ken Betwa Link Project

1437. SHRI D. RAJA:

DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has given clearance for Ken Betwa Link Project;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the other river linking projects under the consideration of Government and what is the reaction of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on these projects; and
- (d) whether Government is proposing to interlink other small rivers of this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Ken-Betwa Link Project Phase-1 has been prepared by NWDA, appraised by CWC and accepted by Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development And Ganga Rejuvenation for an estimated cost of ₹ 18057.08 crores (2015-16 price level). The Government is planning to start implementing this National Project as model link project of ILR programme. The Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) will provide irrigation to an area of about 6.7 lakh ha annually in the drought prone Bundelkhand region. Its various statutory clearances are in the advanced stage. The proposal for Wildlife Clearance for KBLP has been accepted by the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) on 23. 8.2016. The Environmental, Tribal and Forest Land Diversion clearances for the Project are at an advanced stage of consideration.

(c) The other priority links identified for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) are Damanganga-Pinjal Link, Par-Tapi-Narmada Link and Mahanadi-Godavari Link. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Damanganga-Pinjal Link which shall provide water supply to the Mumbai City has been prepared by NWDA, appraised by CWC and accepted by Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD&GR. Detailed Project

Report (DPR) of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link project benefiting drought prone areas of Kutch and Saurashtra of Gujarat has also been completed by NWDA and submitted to the concerned States of Gujarat and Maharashtra in August 2015.

NWDA has prepared the feasibility reports of all the nine Links under the system of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Palar-Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar linkages. The consensus building process is currently underway amongst the concerned States for these links.

(d) Another ILR proposal for Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link under Peninsular Component of National Perspective Plan (NPP) was agreed to in principle by both the States of MP and Rajasthan. The feasibility report (FR) for this link had been prepared in March, 2004 and circulated to the concerned States. However, further progress could not be made as Government of MP is now not in favour of the ILR project as proposed by NWDA.

## Removal of silt from reservoirs

†1438. SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the dams are facing the problem of silt and it is affecting the capacity of reservoirs;
- (b) if so, whether Government would taken steps to remove silt from reservoirs and if so, whether any policy in this regard has been formulated; and
  - (c) if not, by when the action would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Silt flowing in the rivers gets accumulated in the reservoirs and affects the storage capacity of the reservoirs.

De-siltation of reservoirs is prime responsibility of dam owners who are generally State Governments or Central Agencies like BBMB, NHPC etc. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes such as Extension, Renovation and Modernisation (ERM) and Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP).

<sup>†</sup> Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.