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 of the Central Government such as Extension, Renovation and Modernisation (ERM) of Water Resources Projects and Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP).

The work of catchment area treatment was taken up by DVC on the micro watershed concept under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of degradable lands in the catchments of Damodar and Barakar rivers under Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India. DVC was the project implementing agency for this scheme in the State of Jharkhand for this catchment. There has been considerable decrease in the rate of siltation due to catchment area treatment. Further, nearly 10 to 15% of the silt in suspension entering into the reservoirs are transported downstream while exercising flushing doses during rainy season.

As a measure to augment the storage capacity of Maithon reservoir of DVC, the work of preparation of Detailed Project Report for construction of a rim embankment around Maithon reservoir is entrusted to CWC. Further, the Detailed Project Report for construction of Balpahari Dam upstream of Maithon reservoir was prepared by CWC in the year 2012, which would augment the storage capacity in Damodar Basin.

Task force for implementation of Namami Gange Programme

304. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a task force for speedy implementation of Namami Gange Programme;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project;
- (c) the time by which the said project would be completed in all respects; and

(d) the effective measures proposed to be taken by Government for keeping Ganga river clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) An "Empowered Task Force" on river Ganga was constituted as per provisions of River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 dated 7/10/2016. The Empowered Task Force consists of following members:

(a)	Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	Chairperson
(b)	Union Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	Vice-Chairperson
(c)	Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	Member
(d)	Secretary, Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure)	Member
(e)	Chief Executive Officer, Niti Ayog	Member
(f)	Chief Secretary, State of Uttarakhand	Member
(g)	Chief Secretary, State of Uttar Pradesh	Member
(h)	Chief Secretary, State of Bihar	Member
(i)	Chief Secretary, State of Jharkhand	Member
(j)	Chief Secretary, State of West Bengal	Member
(k)	Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga	Member- Secretary
(1)	Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation	Member
(m)	Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Member
(n)	Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation	Member
(0)	Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development	Member
(p)	Chief Secretary, State of Madhya Pradesh	Member
(q)	Secretary, Ministry of Culture	Special Invitee
(r)	Secretary, Ministry of Tourism	Special Invitee

The Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga co-ordinates among concerned Ministries, Departments and State Governments and advises on matters relating to rejuvenation, protection and management of River Ganga and its tributaries. The ETF also monitors the implementation process, addresses bottlenecks, suggests and take such decisions as may be necessary to ensure speedy implementation. Cleaning of river Ganga is being carried out through various coordinated activities including treatment of municipal sewage, treatment of industrial effluent, river surface cleaning, rural sanitation, afforestation & biodiversity etc. Under Namami Gange Program, 187 projects for various activities such as sewage infrastructure, river front development, ghat & crematoria, ghat cleaning, rural sanitation etc. have been sanctioned, out of which 47 projects have been completed so far.

Availability and demand for fresh water

305. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing fresh water scarcity; and

(b) if so, the details about gap in availability and demand for fresh water Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) and (b) The average annual precipitation and average annual water availability in the country has been assessed as 4000 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) and 1869BCM respectively. Due to geological and other factors, the utilizable water availability is limited to 1137 BCM per annum, comprising of 690 BCM of surface water and 447 BCM of replenishable ground water. However, water available per person is dependent on population of the country and for India, water availability per capita is reducing progressively due to increase in population.

The average annual per capita water availability in the years 2001 and 2011 was assessed as 1820 cubic meters and 1545 cubic meters, respectively. This may reduce further to 1340 and 1140 cubic meters in the years 2025 and 2050, respectively.

As per Falkenmark, a Swedish expert, annual per-capita water availability of less than 1700 cubic meters is considered as water stressed condition, whereas annual percapita water availability below 1000 cubic meters is considered as a water scarcity condition.

Water being a State subject, Central Government does not maintain State-wise gap in demand and availability. However, the National Commission on Integrated Water Resources Development (NCIWRD) has assessed the water requirement for various uses for the years 2010, 2025 and 2050 as under: