

from the proposed Port. Ministry of Shipping *vide* its letter dated 05.03.2018 has also forwarded the aforesaid RoD to Government of Andhra Pradesh with the request to furnish comments on the Report of NITI Aayog and to suggest alternate site(s) for development of Major Port in Andhra Pradesh. A reminder was also sent to Government of Andhra Pradesh to expedite the matter on 05.04.2018.

(c) No response has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) and (e) Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that M/s RITES has conducted a TEFRR Study during October, 2017 on behalf of the State Government, and has opined that Port Project at Ramayapatnam is financially viable. Further, the State Government has also informed that as a policy it can negotiate with Concessionaire and can establish a new Port within the Exclusive Rights area by providing proper compensatory mechanism to the Concessionaire.

#### **India's assistance for construction of Sittwe Port**

2853. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sittwe Port in Myanmar constructed with India's assistance is ready for operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the total cost of the project;

(c) whether the port is aimed to facilitate connectivity between the main land and the North Eastern States of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and extent to which it would contribute to the economic development of the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Infrastructure at Sittwe Port in Myanmar constructed with India's assistance is ready for operation. A Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Government of India and Myanmar on 22.10.2018 for operationalization of the Port at Sittwe and Inland Water Transport (IWT) Terminals at Sittwe and Paletwa. The approved construction cost of Sittwe Port and Inland Water Terminals at Sittwe and Paletwa is ₹ 517.29 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Construction of Sittwe Port is part of the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project. It's objective is to create a multi-modal sea, river and road transport corridor for shipment of cargo from the eastern ports of India to Myanmar through Sittwe port as well as to North-Eastern part of India *via* Myanmar. Once fully operational, the project would encourage investment and trade and also open up alternate routes for connectivity to India's North East Region.

#### **Construction of Pancheswar dam on Sarada river**

2854. DR. SANJAY SINHG: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to construct Pancheswar dam on river Sarada of the country, which is also popularly known as Mahakali river in Nepal;

(b) if so, whether Government has received any expert Appraisal Committee Report on the impact on environment and technical feasibility therefor;

(c) if so, whether Government has asked for views from Nepal Government therein; and

(d) the terms of references on water sharing and conditions of project with the counterpart in construction of mega-hydro project thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) As per provisions of the "Mahakali Treaty" signed by the Governments of India and Nepal for integrated development of the Mahakali River (known as Sarada in India) in 1996, Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project is to be constructed on a stretch of the Mahakali River where it forms the boundary between the two countries. Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) has been set up jointly by India and Nepal with Head Quarter at Mahendranagar in Nepal for execution and operation of the Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project on river Sarada. A draft Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Pancheshwar Multi-purpose Project has been prepared by M/s WAPCOS Limited.

(b) to (d) The project was considered twice by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on 24.10.2017 and 5.12.2017 as per EIA Notification, 2006 for Indian portion of the project. The draft DPR is with the two Governments for finalization through a mechanism of Team of Experts/Officials constituted by both, India and Nepal.