

Gange Programme covers short term, medium term and long term activities. Under short term, certain entry level activities which cover development of ghats crematoria and river surface cleaning activities etc have been taken up. Under Medium term activities, existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) are being upgraded and new STPs and ETPs are being established. Beside, rural sanitation has been taken up in the villages on the banks of river Ganga. The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of river Ganga and maintaining the ecological and geological integrity of river. Namami Gange Programme is being executed by State Project Management Group (SPMG) in each Ganga main stem State and during the implementation of projects bottlenecks like delay in tendering process, retendering, non-availability of land, legal issues, delay in permission from local authorities on road cutting/crossing etc. are encountered. The issues are resolved through continuous coordination with the State government at various levels, field visits and quarterly monitoring. Further in order to ensure effective implementation and timely completion of projects, project management consultants/supervision consultants are being appointed by the State Government. All these schemes are targeted to be completed by scheduled time.

Delay in construction of irrigation projects

136. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Indira Sagar Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh, Gosikhurd irrigation project in Maharashtra, Shahpur Kandi Dam in Punjab, Saryu Nahar Pariyojana in Uttar Pradesh and Teesta Barrage in West Bengal;

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of these projects; and

(c) the cost escalation incurred in each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) The Government of India during 2008 approved the scheme of National Projects. Saryu Nahar Pariyojana, Gosikhurd Irrigation Project, Shahpurkandi Dam Project and Teesta Barrage Projects have been included in the list of National Projects. Further, Polavaram Project has been declared as National Project (NP) under provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The status of these projects including latest estimated cost etc. is given below:—

Project	Presently Approved Cost of Components under NP (₹ in crore)	Progress as reported by project Authorities	Completion Target
Polavaram Project	16010.45* (PL 2010-11)	64.31%	December, 2019
Saryu Nahar Pariyojana	5803.61 (PL 2016)	74%	June, 2020
Gosikhurd Irrigation Project	12770.09 (PL 2012-13 of WRD)	66.7%	December, 2021
Shahpurkandi Dam Project	2715.70 [cost of works of Irrigation Component under NP ₹ 564.632 crore (PL 2018)]	**	June, 2022
Teesta barrage Project	2988.61 (PL 2008)	***	***

PL – Price Level.

* State Government has submitted revised cost estimate of ₹ 57941 crore. Rise in cost is mainly due to escalation in cost of LA and R&R.

** Approved for implementation during December 2018.

*** This Project is not progressing since 2014-15 due to LA issues. Irrigation potential of 1.97 LHa. created against target of 5.27 LHa. State Govt. constituted a high level task force in November 2015 to suggest the appropriate course of action for the execution of balance work of Teesta Barrage Project. The State Government has not submitted any proposal in this regard.

The delay in completion of the projects can be attributed to various factors such as inter-State issues, lack of adequate resources with State Governments, delay in getting statutory clearances, issues related to Land Acquisition (LA) and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R), requirement of changes in design, etc.

Feasibility report for linking of rivers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that linking of rivers such as Mahanadi-Godavari, Godavari-Krishna, Krishna-Pennar, Pennar-Cauvery, Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar, Bedti-Varda, Netravati-Hemavati have been identified, which benefits Karnataka and other States long ago;

(b) if so, when was the feasibility report of each of the above link prepared;

(c) the difficulties being faced by the Ministry in preparing DPR for each of the above link; and