

Transport and tourism on Yamuna river

*83. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to launch ships and steamers for transport and tourism on the Yamuna river, and if so the details thereof; and

(b) whether the feasibility of waterways is being checked on the Yamuna, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) River Yamuna from Jagatpur (6 km. upstream of Wazirabad Barrage), Delhi to confluence of Yamuna and Ganga rivers at Sangam, Allahabad (Prayagraj) (1080 km.) was declared as National Waterway-110 (NW-110) under the National Waterways Act, 2016. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) is in advance stage of preparation to assess the techno-economic feasibility of navigation on NW-110. Analysis of the finalized DPR would influence the decision on shipping services in Yamuna river (NW-110).

In addition, a Feasibility Study (FS) for composite and integrated development in the river Yamuna to achieve navigation and to develop water transport facility in the Delhi region was conducted by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA). As per the FS, a Water Taxi service project upstream of Wazirabad barrage up to Fatehpur in a stretch of 16 km has been taken up to be implemented in following two phases:-

(i) Phase-I: Soniya Vihar-Jagatpur-Tronica City.

(II) Phase-II: Tronica City to Fatehpur and Soniya Vihar to Wazirabad

To commence the Yamuna Water Taxi Pilot project, Phase-I, tender process has been initiated by the IWA for procurement of Fiber Reinforce Plastic (FRP) boat and installation of High Density Poly Ethylene (HDPE) pontoons.

Welfare schemes run by mining companies in tribal areas

†*84. SHRI SAMIR ORAON: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) details of various welfare schemes being run by mining companies operational in tribal areas across the country;

(b) details of the rules and guidelines formulated for the welfare schemes being run in tribal areas;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the said schemes have been implemented by the companies during the last three years, if so, detailed information thereof; and

(d) the results of programmes implemented by the above companies?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (d) Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 mandates every company above the specified thresholds of turnover, or net worth, or net profit to spend at least two per cent of the average net profits earned during the three immediately preceding financial years on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities specified in Schedule VII of the Companies Act. The details of welfare activities undertaken by mining companies under CSR are not being centrally maintained by the Ministry of Mines.

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 provides mandatory provision for setting up District Mineral Foundation (DMF) in any district affected by mining related operations. The holder of a mining lease pays at prescribed rates to DMF of the district in which the mining operations are carried on. Funds so collected are being utilised to work for the interest and benefit of persons, and areas, affected by mining related operations. State Governments are empowered to frame rules for the manner in which DMF shall work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining as also the composition and functions of DMF.

To facilitate synergy in implementation of DMF across the States, the Central Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) with the objective of welfare of areas and people affected by mining related operations, using the funds collected under DMFs. The Central Government has issued direction to the State Governments under Section 20A of the MMDR Act laying down the guidelines for implementation of PMKKKY and directing the States to incorporate the same in the rules to be framed by them for DMFs.

PMKKKY guidelines prescribes that at least 60% of fund shall be utilized for high priority areas *i.e.* (i) Drinking water supply (ii) Environment preservation and pollution control measures (iii) Health care (iv) Education (v) Welfare of women and children (vi) Welfare of aged and disabled people (vii) Skill development and (viii) Sanitation; and up to 40% of fund shall be utilized for other priority areas *i.e.* (i) Physical infrastructure (ii) Irrigation (iii) Energy and Watershed Development and (iv) Any other measure for enhancing environment quality in mining district. Para-3 of the PMKKKY guidelines provides for special provisions for Scheduled areas which read as under:—

“The process to be adopted for utilization of DMF and PMKKKY funds in the scheduled areas shall be guided by the provisions contained in Article 244 read with Schedule-V and Schedule VI to the Constitution relating to administration of the Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas and the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.”

As per information received from the State Governments till November, 2018, DMFs have been established in 557 districts of 21 major minerals producing States so far. A sum of ₹ 23,606 crore has been collected under DMFs and ₹ 5726 crore has been utilized by the States in different projects/programmes under PMKKKY.

Implementation of above provisions is resulting into development of area and welfare of people affected by mining in tribal areas.

Polluted stretches of the rivers

†*85. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rivers along with the number of polluted stretches thereof at present and the location-wise details thereof;
- (b) the officers responsible for controlling pollution on these polluted stretches;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against such officers by Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitors the water quality of rivers across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. As per the report published by CPCB in September, 2018, 351 polluted river stretches have been identified on 323 rivers, spread over 29 States and 2 Union Territory, as per stretch-wise and State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (e) Pollution abatement of rivers is a continuous and ongoing process taking into account rapid industrialisation, urbanization and increase in population. It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/local bodies concerned to set

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