224	Written Answers to			[RAJYA SABHA]			Unstarred Question.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Nellore	126	75,523	138	80,189	117	71,117	74	46,315
9.	Prakasam	46	20,951	50	22,544	50	24,217	54	23,668
10.	Srikakulam	9	5,926	13	8,760	13	8,874	22	10,666
11.	Visakhapatnam	19	13,599	22	15,221	16	11,979	26	15,724
12.	Vizianagaram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	West Godavari	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1,179
	Total	429	2,59,231	477	2,85,085	352	2,29,458	494	3,45,520

Source: IMIS of DDWS as on 31.03.2019

Status of Polavaram Irrigation Project

1026. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) status of the Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) as on date;
- (b) funds that have been spent on PIP;
- (c) funds that have been reimbursed to Andhra Pradesh Government till April, 2019 for incurring expenditure on PIP; and
 - (d) time by which Government proposes to complete the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a), (b) and (d) As reported by the Project Authorities/State Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP), 66.74% of works of Poiavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) have been completed and an expenditure of ₹ 16876.93 crore has been incurred on the project up to 15.6.2019. The project is planned to be completed by June, 2021.

(c) Central Assistance (CA) of ₹562.47 crore was provided for this project under AIBP up to 31.03.2014. Further, CA of ₹6764.16 crore has been released for the project since 01.04.2014 when it was declared as National Project as per provisions of A.P. Re-organisation Act, 2014.

Plan for flood control

1027. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes for dredging in Brahmaputra river;
- (b) whether it is a fact that due to high sedimentation and steep slopes regular flood occur in the river during the monsoon;

Brahmaputra Valley; and

(d) the present status of master plan for the control of floods, bank erosion and improvement of drainage thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) The Central Government and the State Government of Assam had set up multi-disciplinary committees to examine whether desilting /dredging is a technically feasible means to minimise magnitude of floods in rivers. These committees *inter-alia* concluded that:

- i. Desilting of rivers for flood control is not an economically viable solution;
- ii. Dredging in general has been found to be inadequate and should not be resorted to, particularly in major rivers;
- iii. Brahmaputra is a complex river and without proper study on all the aspects it will not be wise to go for large scale dredging;
- iv. There are, of course, some locations such as tidal rivers, confluence points with narrow constrictions and the likes which can be tackled by desilting after thorough examination and techno-economic justification. For removal of local flood congestion and channel training, corrective dredging at selected locations can also be taken up.

However, in National Waterway- 2 (NW-2) from Dhubri to Sadiya (891km.) in Assam, which is an operational water way for navigation, Inland Water Way Authority of India (IWAI) undertook regular maintenance dredging for maintaining the required Least Available Depth (LAD) of 2.5 m. depth between Dhubri and Neamati; 2.0 m. depth between Neamati and Dibrugarh and 1.5 m. depth between Dibrugarh and Oriumghat.

- (b) Yes, sediment load carried by the River Brahmaputra is one of the major concerns for flood and erosion in the States. The silt load carried by the river system gets deposited as the river descends into the plains with sudden reduction in slope & consequently, reduction in the flow velocity & sediment carrying capacity is one of the important factor of regular floods in the monsoon.
- (c) Brahmaputra Board carried out Survey and investigation in Brahmaputra valley and prepared the Master Plan (Part-I) of Brahmaputra Basin for the main stem of the river in

1986 for control of flood, bank erosion and improvement of drainage. Master Plan (Part-II) of Barak basin was also prepared by the Brahmaputra Board and both were approved by the Government of India. Both the Master Plans have been circulated to the concerned State Government for implementation of the recommendations of the Master Plans.

Further, the Board has prepared 58 Master Plans (Part-III) of major tributaries of Brahmaputra River. Out of which 50 Master Plans have been approved by the Government of India and circulated to the Concerned States for implementation of recommendations in these Master Plans.

(d) Out of 70 basins/sub-basins identified for preparation of Master Plan, total 52 Master Plans are approved by Government of India. The implementation of measures suggested in these Master Plans for control of flood, bank erosion and improvement of drainage is the prime responsibility of the State Government concerned based on their priorities and availability of funds. Government of India is providing technical & catalytic assistance in the implementation of schemes of the State Government.

Forest clearance for Kaleshwaram Project

1028. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telangana has requested for clearance of forest land for Medigadda Barrage in Kaleshwaram Project;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) whether Government has given the forest clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) As informed by the Forest Department of the Government of Telangana, 10.239 Ha of protected forest land in Sironcha taluk, Gadchiroli district is required to be diverted for construction of left side flood bank of Medigadda Barrage for which clearance was granted by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF & CC) *vide* letter dated 10.06.2019. Further, forest clearance has also been accorded by MoEF & CC for an area of 3168.1315 ha. earlier for various components of Kaleshwaram Project *vide* letter dated 24.11.2017.