

These projects pertained to construction of new berths/harbours and terminals, mechanization of existing berths/harbours and terminals, capital dredging for deepening of drafts for attracting large vessels, development of road and rail connectivity etc.

Ganga waterway from Varanasi to Haldia

†2392. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether efforts are being made to make the Ganga waterway from Varanasi to Haldia suitable for freight to promote shipping activities;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the water level in the Ganges is quite low, specially in summer season, at many places, along the route; and
- (c) if so, the details of Governments' plan to deal with this challenge and desilting of river bed, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. National Waterway (NW)-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Allahabad to Haldia) is already operational and vessels are plying on it. In addition, Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) is being implemented at an estimated cost of ₹ 5369.18 crore for the capacity augmentation of navigation on NW-1 on the Haldia-Varanasi stretch with the technical and financial assistance of the World Bank. The project includes development of various infrastructures such as construction of multimodal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia, Ro-Ro terminals, navigational lock at Farakka, channel marking systems, integrated vessel repair and maintenance facilities, automated information systems of Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) and River Information System (RIS), day and night navigation aids, river training and river conservancy works for fairway development. Projects worth ₹ 1800 crore (approx.) have commenced on ground in a time period of three years after statutory clearances.

(b) and (c) The water level at times reduces to less than 2 m in some stretches due to seasonal variation of discharge during lean season (January to June) which is monitored regularly by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). Under JMVP, a comprehensive assured depth dredging management plan has been prepared with the aim to provide Feast Available Depth (LAD) of 3m, 2.5 m and 2.2 m in stretches of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Haldia-Barh, Barh-Ghazipur and Ghazipur-Varanasi respectively. The assured depth dredging works have commenced on NW-1.

Funds for various schemes related to youth and sports

2393. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate funds are available for the implementation of various schemes/ programmes for the benefit/welfare of youth and sports activities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to expand the scope of various schemes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) The funds allocated to the Department of Youth Affairs are adequate but the funds allocated to Department of Sports for FY 2019-20 are not sufficient for effective implementation of various schemes/programmes under Department of Sports. Department of Sports has requested the Ministry of Finance for allocation of additional funds amounting to ₹419.15 crore at RE stage.

(b) The details of funds allocated to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for FY 2019-20 are given in Statement-I (*See below*). Demand for additional funds by the Department of Sports are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) In order to achieve excellence in sports, expansion of existing sports promotional schemes is to be carried out in future based on third party evaluation. Besides, action taken to expand the scope of various other schemes of the Ministry include periodic review meetings at the level of Minister/Secretary/Organizational Heads etc.; Conferences (National and Regional) with State Level Ministers/Secretaries/Heads of Department and tours by Government of India officers etc. Civil Society Organizations are also encouraged to participate.