

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the estimated cost of the link projected by National Water Development Authority (NWDA); and

(e) from where Government is planning to pool the resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (e) The draft Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Godavari (Inchampalli / Janampet) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project consisting of 3 links viz., Godavari (Inchampalli/Janampet) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects has been completed by National Water Development Agency (NWDA) and sent to party States in March 2019.

As per the draft DPR, about 247 TMC can be diverted from Godavari river to Nagarjunsagar dam(through lifting) and further south for meeting the demands of Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery basins.

As per the draft DPR, the cost of the project has been estimated as ₹60361 Crore at 2018-19 price level by NWDA.

The stage of implementation of a project would be reached after DPR is prepared with the consensus of concerned States and the requisite statutory clearances are obtained. Pooling of resources is decided after completion of final DPR.

Dredging in Brahmaputra river

877. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that river Brahmaputra has the highest sediment yield per square kilometers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for dredging in Brahmaputra river to reduce flooding; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) As informed by Government of Assam the river Brahmaputra is one of the highest sediment carrying rivers in the country. The observed Annual Silt Load of river Brahmaputra at Pandu, Guwahati for the last five years is tabulated below:

Sl. No.	Year	Silt Load (in Metric Ton)
1.	2015	14326810.38
2.	2016	19991673.01
3.	2017	20635639.19
4.	2018	13613552.23
5.	2019	11991868.38

(c) and (d) Following steps have been taken by the Water Resources Department, Government of Assam:

A meeting on the proposal of dredging of river Brahmaputra including its tributaries was held on 23.08.2016, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam. As decided in the meeting, a team of experts/officials from Dredging Corporation of India visited Assam from 02.09.2016 to 09.09.2016. On 21/07/2017, the Hon'ble Minister, Water Resources, Assam visited the Head Quarter of Dredging Corporation of India at Visakhapatnam, met the officials of DCI and discussed about the strategy of dredging in Brahmaputra.

Subsequently, a meeting was held on 04.12.2017 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam and it was decided to procure dredger and other machineries for dredging the tributaries in the State. Accordingly, a scheme costing ₹ 18.00 Cr has been sanctioned under SDRF and work order has already been issued. The process of procuring the dredgers is in progress.

Moreover, 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.