

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2823
ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR CLEANING GANGA RIVER BED

2823. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects currently underway for the river bed cleaning of Ganga river;
- (b) the amount allocated for the projects and how much of it has been sanctioned during the last five years;
- (c) the details of the amount utilised under the sanctioned amount for projects;
- (d) whether there has been any impact analysis of the projects so far since 2016; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c): Erosion and deposition of silt is a natural process in alluvial rivers. Rivers pickup, carry and drop silt load as per their regime conditions i.e. discharge in the river, river slope, morphology, nature of silt etc. A Committee headed Dr. B.K. Mittal, Former Chairman, Central Water Commission has opined that large scale desilting or dredging of rivers in general is not feasible technically due to several reasons like non-sustainability, non-availability of vast land required for the disposal of dredged material etc. The Committee, however, suggested that selective dredging may be undertaken depending upon local conditions. Cost effective measures for removal of drainage congestion in specific reaches of rivers for channel capacity improvement and navigation purposes are formulated and implemented by concerned States / agencies as per requirement. The Union Government renders assistance to States which is technical, advisory, catalytic and promotional in nature.

As informed by Uttar Pradesh Projects Corporation Limited (UPPCL), Lucknow, four (4) projects are currently underway for the river channel dredging of Ganga river. The details of amount allocated/sanctioned and utilised for the projects during the last five (5) years are as under:-

S.No.	Name of City	Amount allocated/sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	Amount utilised (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Hardoi	1069.03	228.01
2	Unnao	1247.93	1047.82
3	Ballia	3009.55	2641.08
4	Varanasi	1195.76	797.88

(d) & (e): UPPCL has informed that it has carried out hydrodynamic modeling of channelization work in districts Hardoi and Ballia through S.V. National Institute of Technology, Surat, Gujarat. The study indicates that after river bed dredging, the dredged channel carries the discharge with high velocity which reduces bank erosion during high flows.