

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4039
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2017

UTILISATION OF WATER RESOURCES

4039. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to evolve a long term comprehensive policy and planning to ensure judicious and efficient utilisation of water resources of the Ganga river and its tributaries and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any authentic and comprehensive database is available currently in the country to look after usage of water for irrigation, drinking and hydroelectric power, etc. in the Ganga basin and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government intends to make sustained all out efforts for accelerating the pace of implementation of the storage creation in Nepal taking due note of the gravity of the annual flood situation in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

- (a) The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by MoWR,RD & GR, inter-alia, advocates conservation, promotion and protection and efficient utilisation of water. A comprehensive Ganga River Basin Management Plan has been formulated by a consortium of seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) for effective abatement of pollution and conservation of river Ganga. IIT-Consortium continues to provide scientific support in implementation and dynamic evolution of the Ganga River Basin Management Plan. Further, Ministry is supporting a consultancy on 'Strategic Basin Planning For Ganga River Basin In India' with key objectives as under:
 - (i) To significantly strengthen the capability of relevant central and state government agencies to undertake comprehensive evidence-based strategic basin planning for the Ganga River basin,
 - (ii) To develop, document and disseminate (through detailed analytical work and stakeholder engagement) a set of plausible scenarios that balance significantly improving the health of the river and maintaining an acceptable level of economic productivity, and

(iii) To build stronger and more accessible information and knowledge base to guide ongoing dialogue around management of the Ganga River basin

(b) Comprehensive data base on hydrological parameters at important locations on river Ganga and its tributaries is maintained by CWC, which is used for planning and formulation of various water resources projects, utilizing the available data on water usage.

(c) Long-term solution to the problem of flood lies in construction of multi-purpose projects with flood cushion in the upper reaches of the rivers in order to attenuate high flood intensity. Since suitable sites to locate dams lie in Nepal, the construction of projects on these rivers is subject to agreement with Government of Nepal. Government of India is having continuous dialogue with the Government of Nepal at various levels to mitigate devastation caused by the flood havoc from the rivers coming from Nepal. Broad outcome of the dialogue mechanism are given below:

- i) Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) has been set up jointly by India and Nepal for execution, operation and maintenance of the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on river Sharda. The draft final DPR of the project has been prepared by M/s WAPCOS Limited.
- ii) Survey and investigation including preparation of DPRs of SaptaKosi High Dam Project and Sun Kosi Storage-cum-Diversion scheme proposed in the SaptaKosi basin in Nepal has been undertaken jointly by India and Nepal.
