GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3786

ANSWERED ON 3RD JANUARY, 2019 BRIDGES ON YAMUNA RIVER

3786. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS सडक़ परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given permission to NHAI, which is planning to construct two pseudo-bridges on the Yamuna—one each on either side of the existing Nizamuddin bridge as part of the Delhi-Meerut Express, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the environmentalists have raised objections in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the pseudo-bridges severely impact a river's ecology, including its ability to freely convey flood water downstream, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this severely restricts a river's ability to meander and increases the ferocity of floods, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether this plan could further create traffic congestion on NH-24, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

- (a) The 2 nos. major bridges on either side of existing Nizamuddin Bridge on Yamuna river as part of Delhi-Meerut Expressway (Package-I) were approved and constructed for decongestion at the location.
- (b) & (c) Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 13-01-2015 had directed that any construction in Yamuna flood plan needs permission from the Principal Committee. An environmental assessment and mitigation plan document was prepared and submitted with the Principal Committee. Objections raised by the environmentalists were duly considered by the Hon'ble NGT and Hon'ble NGT permitted the construction of said bridges vide order dated 25-11-2016.

Further, these bridges have been constructed as per the functional requirement. On directions of Hon'ble NGT, Hydraulic Model and Mathematical Model study was also conducted by IIT, Roorkee and recommendations of the same were incorporated in the design so as to avoid any problems related to meandering, flooding, flow etc.

(d) & (e) No Madam.