Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG);

(b) the total funds spent so far under the said mission;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for removal of silt accumulated at the bottom of river Ganga in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(Shri Bishweswar Tudu)

(a) The Namami Gange Programme was launched to rejuvenate the River Ganga and its tributaries. Under the programme, a comprehensive set of interventions for pollution abatement measures to tackle different sources of pollution such as municipal sewage, industrial effluents, municipal solid waste, non-point sources of pollution, and interventions for improving ecological flows, biodiversity conservation, afforestation, improving amenities and sanitation at river banks, capacity building, research & monitoring, public awareness, etc. have been taken up for the rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries.

Till 31st December 2023, a total of 457 projects (including sewerage infrastructure projects) have been taken up at an estimated cost of ₹ 38,438.05 crore, out of which 280 projects have been completed and made operational. Most of the projects pertain to the creation of sewage infrastructure as untreated domestic/industrial wastewater is the main source of pollution in the river. A total of 198 sewerage infrastructure projects have been taken up with a cost of ₹ 31,575.84 crore for the creation & rehabilitation of 6,208.12 Million Litres per Day (MLD) of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity. Out of these, 111 sewerage projects have been completed, resulting in the creation and rehabilitation of 2,844.00 MLD of sewage treatment capacity.

(b) From the inception of the Namami Gange Programme in FY 2014-15 till FY 2022-23, the Government of India has released ₹ 14,329.72 crore to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) for the implementation of projects under the Namami Gange Programme. NMCG has released/disbursed ₹ 13,735.40 crore to various agencies during the said period, out of which ₹13,286.84 crore has been utilized.

Further, in FY 2023–24, an amount of ₹ 2,131.93 crore has been released by the Government of India to the NMCG up to 31 December 2023, out of which Rs.1,930.57 crore has been released/disbursed to various agencies.

Thus, a total amount of ₹ 16,461.65 crore has been released by the Government of India to the NMCG since the inception of the Namami Gange Programme (up to 31 December 2023), and NMCG has released/disbursed ₹ 15,665.97 crore to various implementation agencies.

(c) & (d) As informed by the Central Water Commission (CWC), no specific information is available. However, a National Framework on Sediment Management (NFSM) has been prepared by DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, for comprehensive and holistic management of sediment by the State Govt./Project Authorities/ Other Ministries. The framework, inter alia, addresses the management of sedimentation in reservoirs in detail. In this regard, the National Workshop on Sediment Management was organized by the Ministry of Jal Shakti on 19th June 2023 to sensitize all stakeholders about the present issues of sedimentation in rivers and reservoirs.

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