

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2806
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2019

ECOLOGICAL FLOW OF RIVERS

2806. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any survey report on dredging/sand mining to establish ecological flow of the rivers in India, especially in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with futuristic steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) to (c) Government of India, vide Notification dated 9th October 2018, has notified minimum environmental flows to be maintained in river Ganga for stretch from its origin to Unnao (Uttar Pradesh). The notified environmental flow regime is monitored by Central Water Commission.

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC) in the Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) for conducting the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for any proposed River Valley and Hydroelectric Project have mentioned the norms for release of Environmental flows which is 30% in monsoon season, 20% in lean season and 25% in non-monsoon & non-lean season to be followed corresponding to flow of 90% dependable year. These norms along with the site specific requirements for environment flow releases as per the studies are then stipulated in the Environment Clearance (EC) letter for compliance.

With regards to the monitoring of the e-flow release, the Regional offices of MoEF & CC and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with the State Pollution Control Boards concerned have been mandated for monitoring of all the environmental aspects of the Hydro Power Projects.
