

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4073

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

FLOOD-CARRYING CAPACITY OF WATERWAYS AND COURSES

4073. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR SHRI EATALA RAJENDER

SMT. D K ARUNA

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

- (a) whether the major waterways and river courses carrying surplus or floodwater, running for a distance of nearly 250 km, in and around the various cities would have better flood-carrying capacity during monsoon from major reservoirs and various waterbodies in several areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the surplus courses would be cleared and water channels surplus course would also be de-silted and if so, the details along with the present status thereof;
- (c) whether various departments have also allotted funds to remove weeds and floating waste from major waterways on vulnerable stretches, particularly near checkdams, to alleviate flooding and obstructions in some stretches of various rivers and if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (d) the funds sanctioned and utilised in this regard during the last five years and the current year, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The desilting measures including dredging in specific reaches of rivers for removal of drainage congestion, channel capacity improvement and navigation purpose are formulated and implemented by concerned States/ agencies as per requirement. Dredging/desilting of rivers is not considered techno-economically feasible, as it can provide marginal benefits and is effective only for a short period. Selective dredging in specific reaches such as tidal rivers, confluence points with narrow constrictions, etc., sometimes may have to be undertaken based upon local site conditions. However, the same should be backed by proper scientific model study.

Further, for the comprehensive and holistic management of sediments in river courses and water bodies, in a holistic manner, the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, in extensive consultations with Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ State Governments/ UTs have prepared the "National Framework for Sediment Management (NFSM)". Its emphasis is on reducing silt generation rather than silt removal and promote technological innovations & best practices. The framework lays emphasis on sediment management through integrated river basin management plan giving due consideration to environment and ecology.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has taken several steps towards sustainable management and conservation of water bodies in urban areas through issuance of various guidelines and implementation of National Missions i.e., Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) & AMRUT 2.0.

Under AMRUT 2.0, so far, 3078 water body rejuvenation projects across various States worth Rs 6159 crore have been approved by MoHUA, wherein the components like rejuvenation of water bodies by desilting, harvesting rainwater through storm water drains and creation / strengthening of storm water drains around water bodies are also included, among others.
