

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:365
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2014
RIVER DEVELOPMENT
Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) the mechanism laid down to monitor the river development schemes so as to promote transparency and accountability;
- (b) the details of Centrally Sponsored River Development Schemes being implemented by the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) including funds sanctioned/released by the Government to NGOs for implementation of these schemes during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed performance of river development schemes being implemented by the Centre, States and NGOs; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof including the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 365 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.12.2014 REGARDING RIVER DEVELOPMENT.

(a) Water being a State subject, State Governments undertake several measures for conservation, development and management of water resources including river development and monitoring of those projects. Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation implements various schemes, such as, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; Flood Management Programme; Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies, etc., to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in various aspects of river development. Monitoring of these centrally sponsored schemes is carried out through regional offices of Central Water Commission.

Further, the National Water Policy, 2012 emphasizes the need for comprehensive legislation for optimum development of inter-State rivers and river valleys to facilitate inter-State coordination ensuring scientific planning of land and water resources taking basin/sub-basin as unit with a unified perspective of water in all its forms (including precipitation, soil moisture, ground and surface water) to ensure holistic as well as balanced development of both the catchment and the command areas. Such legislation needs, inter alia, to deal with and enable establishment of basin authorities, comprising party States, with appropriate powers to plan, manage and regulate utilization of water resource in the basins.

(b) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation do not implement any Centrally Sponsored River Development Scheme through Non Governmental Organizations.

(c)&(d) All centrally sponsored schemes are evaluated periodically through independent evaluation agencies, in the Planning Commission Working Group meetings and in various stakeholders' consultation meetings to ensure their effectiveness and to refine the Guidelines for these schemes on an ongoing basis.