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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3736 ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION Rai Shri Nityanand

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not been able to spend a large share of the budgetary allocation till December, 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that the funds which could have otherwise been used on some other projects are not blocked?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a)&(b) This Ministry had a plan allocation of Rs.13237 Cr. during 2014-15. The work relating to the River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation was transferred to this Ministry on 31.7.2014; the Namami Ganga project is still at an approval stage. As a result of this and due to delays in submission of proposals by the State Governments in proper format and advance release of State share under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, proportionate expenditure could not be incurred. As a result, at the RE stage the allocation for this Ministry has been reduced to Rs.5400 crores, against which an expenditure of Rs.4127.71 crores has been incurred. The remaining proposals are at an advanced stage of release of funds.

Further, assistance to the States to the tune of Rs.1300 crore is already approved, but funds cannot be released to the States, due to paucity of funds. In addition, State proposals worth Rs.2137 crores could also not be processed, for the same reason. This Ministry has, therefore, requested the Finance Ministry for supplementary funds to the tune of Rs.3437 crores in 2014-15 to meet the additional requirement of funds

(c) All steps such as weekly expenditure review meetings by the Hon'ble Minister (WR,RD & GR), speedy completion of appraisal of projects and simplification of guidelines for submission of project proposals by the State Governments, have been undertaken to ensure the full utilization of the available funds.