

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4846
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
DREDGING
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to dredge major rivers and dams in the country including Ganga and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has adopted new approach for treating and processing of dredged materials and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether any technical study has been conducted in this regard for disposing the dredged sand in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) The Central Government carries out river conservancy works, which includes dredging, only for improvement of depth for navigation in the waterways which are declared as National Waterways (NWs). River Ganga is a part of National Waterway No.-1. Therefore, dredging is done in River Ganga for maintaining the depth for safe navigation by inland vessels as part of conservancy work.

(b)&(c):No, Madam. The material dredged from the river beds are generally sand and silt which are pumped away by the dredgers from the main channel or in the secondary channel to block the same for diversion of water flow to the main channel. If found feasible and appropriate, it is dumped on the banks to strengthen the banks from erosion, whenever necessary.