

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI-MATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Under the present phase of the Ganga Action Plan, 262 schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 278.62 crores have been sanctioned for the three States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal. Taking into account the expenditure on the Ganga Project Directorate establishment, research projects, operation and maintenance, and cost escalations on the schemes that is likely, the total outlay is expected to be of the order of Rs. 350 crores.

(b) the monitoring of the progress of the Ganga Action Plan is carried out periodically by a Monitoring Committee which has suggested greater scientific inputs, resource recovery and public participation.

(c) Sixty eight industries on the banks of River Ganga were identified as gross polluters by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Of these 37 units have set up effluent treatment plants (ETPs) to treat their effluents, ETPs are under construction in 11 more units and 10 units have closed down. The other 10 units have either not responded or are delaying action. Action taken in their regard is given below, Statewise.

	UP	Bihar	West Bengal	Total
1. Legal action being taken	4	1	4	9
2. Extension of time granted for submitting a time-bound programme	—	—	1	1

Development Works in Ambala Cantonment Area

906. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any development works in the Ambala Cantonment Area (Haryana) have been carried out during the tenure of the present President of Cantonment Board, Ambala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Since February '89, when the present President took over, Rs. 0.47 lakhs have been spent on original and miscellaneous works upto February, 1990 during the current financial year.

An expenditure of Rs. 12.10 lakhs was incurred during the same period on works which are under execution. Details are not maintained at the Centre.

[Translation]

Denudation of Forests

907. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total land area which has become barren in the country due to denudation of forests;

(b) whether Government propose to check indiscriminate denudation of forests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?