

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:603
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
POLLUTION IN RIVERS
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government have identified the polluted rivers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any scheme has been implemented to clean these rivers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to clean these rivers and amount spent thereon during the last three years, year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) & (b) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board polluted stretches in 22 major rivers in 14 States of the country have been identified. The State-wise details of rivers is given in Annexure .

(c)&(d) Government launched in 1985 the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I which is targetted to be completed by March, 2000 at a cost of Rs.462 crore. Government also approved during the period from April, 1993 to October, 1996 the schemes of the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II and the National River Conservation Plan at a cost of about Rs.1276 crore and Rs.737 crore respectively which are under implementation. The Action Plans involve

- (i) interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river and divert it for treatment,
- (ii) sewage treatment plants for treating the diverted sewage,
- (iii) low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks,
- (iv) electric and improved wood based crematoria to conserve wood and prevent the pollution of rivers on account of disposal of unburnt dead bodies into the rivers,
- (v) river front development works such as improvement of bathing ghats etc. and
- (vi) other miscellaneous works. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the existing environmental laws. The amount spent on cleaning of these rivers during the last three years is given below:

Year	(Rs. in crore)
1996-97	108.23
1997-98	94.65
1998-99	103.65
1999-2000 (till 31.01.2000)	130.30