

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:43

ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001

CLEANING OF YAMUNA RIVER

DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO;PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;RAMDAS
ATHAWALE;SHANKERSINH VAGHELA;SUKDEO PASWAN

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

- (a) whether any studies have been undertaken by different agencies/departments/institutes in regard to cleaning of Yamuna river during the last five years as well as current year, till date;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; (
- (c) the action taken by the Government on each of the reports submitted by them;
- (d) the achievements made in cleaning up the Yamuna so far indicating the degree of purity of water alongwith the assistance provided and utilised during the last five years:
- (e) the names of cities which have been benefited during the said period as a result thereof;
- (f) whether the Government have recently formulated any comprehensive plan/scheme to clean up river Yamuna;
- (g) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated cost of the project/scheme; and
- (h) the time by which river Yamuna is likely to be pollution free?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (h) The Government of National Capital Territory(NCT)of Delhi had commissioned a study to Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS)for preparation of a pre-feasibility report for construction of a parallel intercepting sewer along Yamuna in Delhi to prevent the discharge of untreated sewage into the river. A quick study report with an estimated cost of Rs. 800 crore was submitted by WAPCOS.The project was not found feasible as it envisaged to tackle only the point sources of pollution entering the river whereas an integrated action plan tackling all components responsible for pollution of Yamuna in Delhi is necessary for abatement of pollution in the river. Besides this, the Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB)has been carrying out monitoring studies of river Yamuna as per the directions of the Supreme Court. The monitoring, which is being carried out at 4 stations on Yamuna within Delhi, is done on a monthly basis. The CPCB is submitting the data to the Supreme Court on a quarterly basis

Government launched the Yamuna Action Plan in April, 1993 for cleaning the river. The estimated cost of the Action Plan is Rs. 510 crore comprising Rs.226 crore for Haryana, Rs.250 crore for Uttar Pradesh and Rs.20 crore for Delhi. In addition, under the extended phase of Yamuna Action Plan, a project at an estimated cost of Rs. 222 crore has been approved recently. The action plan covers 21 towns of which 12 are in Haryana and 8 in Uttar Pradesh besides Delhi. The financial assistance provided and utilised under the Yamuna Action Plan during the last 5 years is as under:-

(Rs. In crore)

1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
---------	---------	---------	-----------	---------

Financial assistance

Fund expen	Fund expen	Fund expen	Fund expen	Fund expen
Relesd incurd	Relesd incurd	Relesd incurd	Relesd incurd	Relesd incurd

Haryana 63.38 93.26 25.85 45.50 26.50 22.06 14.82 13.66 6.97 5.87

Uttar Pradesh	16.50	25.07	50.55	43.08	47.00	76.85	54.10	63.85	16.70	14.58
Delhi	4.625	6.59	0.825	3.21	2.00	1.66	1.25	1.24	0.675	1.12

All these works are targeted to be completed by March, 2002.

In addition, the Government of NCT of Delhi is implementing projects for construction of additional sewage treatment plants, sewerage of regularised unauthorised colonies and refurbishing of trunk sewerage system.

The water quality of river Yamuna upstream of Delhi upto Palla is within the prescribed standards. However, there has not been much improvement in the water quality in the river stretch along Delhi as the major works are still to be completed.

Under a public interest litigation, Government, through the Ministry of Urban Development in its affidavit dated 08.11.2000 filed in the Supreme Court, submitted an Integrated Action Plan for cleaning of river Yamuna which is to be implemented by the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Integrated Action Plan consists of the following major activities:

- (i) Increase in sewage treatment capacity
- (ii) Sewerage of regularised unauthorised colonies
- (ii) Refurbishing of the trunk sewerage system
- (iv) Removal / relocation of jhuggies from the Yamuna river banks and the drains
- (v) Construction of 15 common effluent treatment plants

The Supreme Court in its order dated 10.4.2001 has directed the Government of NCT of Delhi to indicate the steps to be taken in order to ensure attaining of the required water quality in the river Yamuna by 31.3.2003. In compliance to the above directions of the Court, the Government of NCT of Delhi has submitted the following schedule:-

- (i) The Delhi Jal Board is to create a treatment capacity of 2326 mld by the year 2002. It has projected total treatment capacity requirement of 3298 mld in 2006 and 3661 mld in 2011. Accordingly, it plans to create these capacities by 2005 & 2010 respectively.
- (ii) Desilting, rehabilitation of trunk sewers and laying of sewer lines in unauthorised/regularised colonies, resettlement colonies, urban villages subject to technical feasibility, replacement of undersized sewers are planned to be completed by 2005.
- (iii) The number of jhuggies on the river banks and drain has been revised by the Slum and Jhuggi Jhonpri Wing of Municipal Corporation of Delhi from 62000 to approximately 75000. The removal/relocation of these jhuggies will be dependent on the availability of land and resources.
- (iv) All the proposed 15 common effluent treatment plants presently under construction will be completed by December, 2002.
- (v) The Delhi Jal Board has also prepared an action plan for connecting storm water drainage into sewerage system to prevent flow of untreated waste water into river Yamuna.