

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:14  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003  
NATIONAL RIVER CONSERVATION PLAN  
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;MOHAN RAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided priorities for the approved works/projects under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether pollution abatement works of some important rivers like Ganga and Yamuna are facing resource crunch;
- (d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to achieve the target of cleaning all the major rivers by 2007;
- (e) whether the Government have also decided to seek external assistance to complete some of the projects under NRCP;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether Tenth Plan projection of river pollution control are proposed to be reviewed; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (h) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 14 to be answered on Monday, the 21st July, 2003 on National River Conservation Plan.

(a) & (b) Based on the pollution load assessment Government has approved projects worth Rs. 4064 crore to be implemented by various State Governments to cover pollution abatement works in 157 towns along polluted stretches of 31 rivers spread over 18 States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP).

(c) & (d) The present assessment suggests a requirement of additional Rs. 2000 crore to tackle the balance pollution load of important towns on the banks of river Ganga and Yamuna alone. Due to non-availability of adequate funds commensurate with the requirement for the Xth Plan culminating in 2007, it may not be possible to achieve the target.

(e) & (f) The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) has agreed for a soft loan of Rs. 624 crore to finance Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II. In addition Government of Netherlands is providing Rs. 105 crore for the pollution abatement works of river Ganga at Kanpur. The external assistance forms part of the Plan outlay.

(g) & (h) The Planning Commission has agreed to review the budget provision of NRCP from the present Rs. 1417 crore to Rs. 1825 crore during the mid-term review of the Tenth Plan.