

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4550

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005

JAPANESE ASSISTANCE FOR CLEANING OF GANGA

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

- (a) whether Japan has offered its assistance to India for cleaning of river Ganga;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms and conditions laid down in this regard;
- (c) the amount involved in the said project; and
- (d) by when the work is likely to be started and completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Government of Japan has provided grant technical assistance for a Development Study relating to "Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga river" with focus on four towns in the Ganga basin namely, Kanpur, Lucknow, Allahabad and Varanasi. Under the Study, it is envisaged to formulate the Master Plans and Feasibility Studies for sewerage and non-sewerage components in the four towns. The Master Plans and Feasibility Studies for the towns of Kanpur, Allahabad and Lucknow are yet to be finalized by the JICA Study Team. The Feasibility Study for Varanasi after finalization was posed to Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for funding, on the basis of which the Government of India has recently signed a Loan Agreement with JBIC amounting to Japanese Yen 11,184 million for the project of pollution abatement of river Ganga at Varanasi. The funding to be received from JBIC for the project is a soft loan with 0.75% interest re-payable in 30 years after the grace period of 10 years. The work on the project is scheduled to start in the current financial year and is expected to be completed by March, 2012.