GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2465 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004 POLLUTION IN RAMGANGA AND KOSI RIVERS Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the water of Ramganga and Kosi rivers flowing through the border of Rampur district has got polluted thereby causing serious health hazards to human beings and livestock and the colour of the water has turned black;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme to control the water pollution of these rivers; and

(c) if so, by when the water of these rivers is likely to be made pollution free?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c) Disposal of industrial waste water by distilleries and agro-based paper mills located at Kashipur and Rampur Districts including untreated city sewage are the sources causing pollution and colour problem in the rivers Ramganga and Kosi. Water of the Ramganga and Kosi has been observed dark coloured particularly during the winter months.

To prevent the pollution of rivers Ramganga and Kosi, the industries, in particular, Distilleries and Pulp & Paper, have been directed not to dispose off waste water into the rivers. Distilleries are required to store effluents in lagoons and discharge their waste water during monsoon period only. Further, under Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection (CREP), a time bound action plan for these industries has also been specified.