

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2940
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009
DEVELOPMENT OF YAMUNA
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the development of Yamuna river-bed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for acquisition of Yamuna river-bed for its development; and
- (d) the time by which this development work is likely to be started and completed ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a)&(b): Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has informed that it had awarded a Study to the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) on the Environmental Management Plan for Rejuvenation of River Yamuna in the National Capital Territory (NCT), and the report was submitted by NEERI in October, 2005. The general guidelines recommended by the Study for rejuvenation/management of the river, inter alia, include :

- (i) Regular dredging of the river bed all through the river stretch and particularly in the upstream of Wazirabad barrage, apart from efforts to increase pondage and ensuring regular desilting.
- (ii) Unauthorized encroachment to be checked.
- (iii) For any of the proposed developmental activities on the river bed, considerable volume of construction materials from outside should not be permitted and innovative design of various structures may be carried out so that flow is obstructed to the minimum.
- (iv) Dense afforestation should not be developed in any stretch of the river bed.
- (v) No residential or industrial facilities requiring permanent structures to be provided on the river bed.
- (vi) Effective emergency warning system and evacuation plan to be prepared for all modified land uses for each development.
- (vii) Proper solid and liquid waste management practices to be ensured for all development carried out in the river bed and in no case the waste shall be permitted to be discharged in the river bed.

(c)&(d): DDA has further informed that approximately 4641.47 acre of land at Yamuna River Bed is at the disposal of DDA. In addition, 288 acre of land has been acquired by Land Acquisition Collector, Government of NCT of Delhi, but possession has not been handed over to DDA. A total of 939.94 acre of land is under the control of UP Irrigation Department, out of which acquisition proceedings are already in progress for approximately 17.483 acre of land for projects related to the Commonwealth Games 2010. A High Powered Committee for Yamuna River Development under the Chairmanship of Lt. Governor, Government of NCT of Delhi with Chief Minister as Vice-Chairperson has been constituted by the Government of India. A draft Zonal Plan of Zone `O` (River Yamuna/River Front) has also been prepared by the DDA.