

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:486
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
CONSERVATION OF THE YAMUNA
Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Yamuna River Development Authority on the lines of Ganga Authority;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Expert Committee has been constituted to study the pollution of river and for recommending remedial measures;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith its recommendations thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken to prevent further erosion of rivers in the country from pollution and to clean them?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b) A High Powered Committee constituted by the Central Government under the Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor, Government of NCT of Delhi has submitted its report recommending a two tier statutory framework consisting of a National Yamuna River Authority with powers to issue enforceable directions on similar lines as contained in section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, to any State Government and State Level Yamuna River Authority in each of the concerned States for proper development and management of the river.

(c) & (d) As per Central Water Commission, an Inter-Disciplinary Working Group on study of requirement of minimum flows in the river Yamuna submitted its report in May 1989. The report mentions the need for augmenting the river flow by construction of storages, modernization of irrigation systems, regulation of ground water utilization, improvement in the existing irrigation and agricultural practices, allocation of water for different uses and the setting up of a River Basin Organisation to manage optimum utilization of the water resources of the river basin both in quantity and quality.

(e) The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India has sponsored a scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) which covers polluted stretches of 39 rivers in 178 towns spread over 20 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs.6311 crore as on 30th November, 2010. The major rivers covered under the Plan include Ganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar, Satluj, Krishna, Musi, Cauveri and Godavari besides others. The objective of NRCP is to check pollution in rivers and to improve their water quality through implementation of various pollution abatement schemes.