

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1637
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
AGENCY FOR CLEANING OF RIVER
Amlabe Shri Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether agencies for cleaning of various rivers of the country have been recruited;
- (b) if so, the details of agencies recruited in the country including Madhya Pradesh, river-wise and agency-wise;
- (c) the time by which the said work is likely to be commissioned and completed;
- (d) whether the Government has any other proposed project for the cleaning of polluted rivers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (f) Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in river conservation through the Centrally sponsored scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). This Plan covers polluted stretches of 39 rivers in 182 towns spread over 20 States. The pollution abatement works taken up under the Plan include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and river front development. Sewage treatment capacity of 4064 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far in the country under the Plan. Pollution abatement works under NRCP are implemented on a cost sharing basis between Centre and States through Implementing Agencies nominated by the States and functioning under their control. The details of the state implementing agencies are given in the annexure.

The Central Government has set up the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in February, 2009 as an empowered authority for holistic conservation of the river Ganga with a river basin approach. Schemes worth about Rs.2476 crores have been sanctioned under NGRBA so far. River conservation projects such as creation of civic infrastructure for sewage management and disposal are also being implemented under other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under State Sector schemes.