

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:762

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011

CONSERVATION OF THE GANGA

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken loan from World Bank to support the National Ganga River Basin Authority in building the capacity of its nascent operational level institutions;
- (b) if so, the amount of loan approved by the World Bank in this regard;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to set up a state-of-the-art Ganga Knowledge Centre to act as a repository of knowledge relevant for the conservation of the Ganga;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by which the aforesaid state-of-the-art Ganga Knowledge Centre is likely to be set up; and
- (f) the extent to which the World Bank supported project will help to reduce the pollution and strengthen the Central and State Pollution Control Boards for monitoring the pollution in the Ganga?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) A project under the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) with World Bank assistance for abatement of pollution of river Ganga at an estimated cost of Rs. 7000 crore has been approved in April 2011 by the Central Government. The World Bank will provide financial assistance of US \$ 1 billion. The principal objective of the project is to fund creation of pollution abatement infrastructure for conservation and restoration of water quality of the river, institutional development component for setting dedicated implementation entities at Centre and States, setting up a Ganga Knowledge Centre, comprehensive water quality monitoring system and capacity building of Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards and Urban Local Bodies. The duration of the project will be 8 years.

The NGRBA has resolved that under Mission Clean Ganga, no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluents flow into the river Ganga by the year 2020. The World Bank assisted project would support NGRBA's objective of Mission Clean Ganga.

The Central Government has initiated setting up Ganga Knowledge Centre which will serve as repository of knowledge resource pertaining to Ganga, to carry out analysis and modeling and improve information access.