

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1077
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011
MISSION CLEAN GANGA
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved Rs. 497 crore projects for Varanasi under Mission Clean Ganga;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount spent so far by the Government on cleaning the Ganga river; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (d) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I was initiated in the year 1985 and was completed in March, 2000. Phase-II of the programme was approved in stages from 1993 onwards and is under implementation. Pollution abatement works taken up under the Plan include interception, diversion and treatment of sewage; low cost sanitation works; electric/improved wood crematoria, etc. An expenditure of Rs.1045 crore has been incurred towards implementation of various pollution abatement works in towns along river Ganga and sewage treatment capacity of 1091 million litres per day has been created so far under the Plan.

The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in February, 2009 as an empowered authority for conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach. The Authority has decided that under 'Mission Clean Ganga' it will be ensured that by the year 2020 no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into the river.

Projects amounting to Rs. 2589 crore have been sanctioned so far under the NGRBA programme. This includes a pollution abatement project for river Ganga at Varanasi sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 496.90 crore, with loan assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency. The project comprises of schemes pertaining to sewerage, pumping stations, construction of 140 million litres per day (mld) sewage treatment plant, community toilet complexes, construction of dhobi ghats, improvement of bathing ghats, public awareness & participation and institutional development & capacity building of the local body.