

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:508

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012

CHECK ON POLLUTION PROBLEMS OF SURFACE WATER

Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Pangi Shri Jayaram

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

- (a) whether the setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) under the Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans is obligatory;
- (b) if so, the total number of STPs set up under the Ganga and Yamuna Action Plan, State-wise;
- (c) the costs involved in setting up of such plants and sources of funds mobilized therefor and the amount allocated and spent for each river during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and Twelfth Five Year Plan period;
- (d) whether the Government provides funds for such plants under any scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to formulate any legislation to check pollution in rivers; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) As a major cause of rising organic pollution in rivers, including Ganga and Yamuna, is the discharge of untreated and partially treated domestic effluents by various municipalities, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been set up in different identified towns as one of the core pollution abatement schemes under the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) and Yamuna Action Plan (YAP). The sanctioned cost involved for setting up these STPs in the States implementing GAP and YAP is Rs.938.30 crore. Japan International Cooperation Agency has extended loan assistance for YAP while projects under GAP are implemented from the Plan outlay of the Government of India. Sewage and sewerage projects amounting to Rs.2372.76 crores have also been sanctioned under the National Ganga River Basin Authority(NGRBA). Schemes under NGRBA are implemented with funding from the Government of India as well as World Bank and JICA. These plans are implemented on cost sharing basis between Centre and States. State wise details of projects are at Annexure.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), the Government of India has sanctioned various pollution abatement schemes namely, interception and diversion of sewage, low cost sanitation works, electric/improved wood crematoria, river front development works besides setting up of STPs. The NRCP presently covers pollution abatement works in 190 towns along polluted stretches of 40 rivers spread over 20 States.

(f) & (g) The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards are vested with necessary powers under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for prevention of pollution in rivers and other water bodies.