

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2549
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
WORLD HERITAGE
Punia Shri P.L.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to declare river Ganga as a 'World Heritage';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be declared;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) 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) There is no proposal with the Government to declare river Ganga as World Heritage. However, while recognizing that river Ganga is of unique importance ascribed to reasons that are geographical, historical, socio-cultural and economic giving it the status of a national river, the Government of India has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in February 2009 under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.