

26

GANGA ACTION PLAN

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS**

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
COMMITTEE
2005-2006**

TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
(2005-2006)

(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

GANGA ACTION PLAN

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

*[Action Taken on the recommendations contained in
Sixty-second Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]*



*Presented to Lok Sabha on 17.3.2006
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 17.3.2006*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2006/Phalguna, 1927 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
(2005-2006)

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*Shri Jairam Ramesh, MP ceased to be Member *w.e.f.* 29th January, 2006 on his appointment as Minister in the Union Government.

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1. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Additional Secretary*
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5. Shri Rajesh Ranjan Kumar — *Assistant Director*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Public Accounts Committee having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, do present this Twenty-sixth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee contained in their 62nd Report (13th Lok Sabha) on "Ganga Action Plan".

2. The Report was considered and adopted by the Public Accounts Committee at their sitting held on 14th March, 2006. Minutes of the sitting form Part-II of the Report.

3. For facility of reference and convenience, the recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in a consolidated form in Appendix to the Report.

4. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them in the matter by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

NEW DELHI;
14 March, 2006

23 Phalguna, 1927 (Saka)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report deals with the action taken by Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee (2003-2004) contained in their 62nd Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) based on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2000, Union Government (Scientific Departments), No. 5A of 2000 relating to 'Ganga Action Plan'.

2. The Original Report was based on the Audit Review, which had pointed out that in order to reduce the enormous pollution load taken by the river Ganga, an action plan, known as "Ganga Action Plan" (GAP) was prepared by Department of Environment (now Ministry of Environment & Forests) in December, 1984 on the basis of a survey on Ganga basin carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board in 1984. To oversee the Implementation of GAP and lay down policies and programmes. Government of India constituted the Central Ganga Authority (CGA) under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister in February, 1985*. The GAP was officially launched in June, 1985 as a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the establishment of the Ganga Project Directorate (GPD)**, as a wing of the Ministry of Environment & Forests to execute the projects under the guidance and supervision of the NRCA. Various State agencies like Public Health Engineering Department, Water and Sewage Boards, Pollution Control Boards, Development Authorities. Local Bodies etc. were responsible for actual implementation of the scheme.

3. It was further pointed out in the Audit Review that the main objective of GAP initially was to improve the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards by preventing the pollution load reaching the river. This objective was, however, recast in June 1987, as restoring the river water quality to the "Bathing class" standard. Since Ganga Action Plan Phase-I (GAP-I) did not cover the pollution load of Ganga fully; the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (GAP-II) was launched in stages between 1993 and 1996 in other polluting towns left out in Phase-I and on the tributaries of river Ganga viz Yamuna, Damodar and Gomati. States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal were to implement GAP-I and States of Uttaranchal, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal were to implement GAP-II.

4. The Committee had dealt comprehensively with various aspects of these aforesaid issues in their Original 62nd Report and made suitable Observations/ Recommendations.

* Renamed as the National River Conservation Authority (NRCA) in September, 1995.

** Renamed as the National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD).

5. The 62nd Report contained 44 Observations/Recommendations. The Action Taken Notes in respect of all the Observations/Recommendations have been received from the Government. These have been broadly categorized as follows:—

- (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.

(Paragraph Nos. 15.1, 15.3, 15.5, 15.6, 15.7, 15.8, 15.9, 15.10, 15.11, 15.13, 15.16, 15.17, 15.20, 15.21, 15.22, 15.25, 15.27, 15.29, 15.31, 15.32, 15.33, 15.36, 15.36, 15.37, 15.38, 15.40, 15.42)

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies received from the Government:

(Paragraph Nos. 15.4, 15.14, 15.15, 15.19, 15.24, 15.26, 15.28, 15.30, 15.39, 15.41, 15.43, 15.44)

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations to which replies have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration :

(Paragraph Nos. 15.2, 15.12, 15.18, 15.23, 15.35)

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations to which the Government have furnished interim replies:

—NIL—

6. The action taken notes furnished by the Ministry of Environment & Forests have been reproduced in the relevant Chapters of this Report. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of the Observations/Recommendations, which need reiteration or merit comments.

Overall Delay in Completion of Project (Paragraph 15.2)

7. The Public Accounts Committee, in Paragraph 15.2 of their Original Report, had observed that the pace of developing infrastructure to control water pollution in Ganga River was very slow and the money released was either not commensurate with the requisite facilities or had been diverted for some other purposes and the work remained standstill or incomplete. Although the GAP-I which was to be completed by March, 1990 and had been extended till March, 2000; yet it was incomplete even after delay of over 13 years. Also GAP-II which was to be completed in 2001 was extended till December 2008. This, in the Committee's view, clearly reflected the extremely slow knee jerk pace of development work being done for the last 18 years under GAP-I and II. The Committee had deplored the inefficiency and lack of foresight on the part of the implementing agencies. *viz.* Central, State Governments and contracted agencies, which was responsible for this state of affairs.

8. In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Environment & Forests have stated as under:—

"In Bihar under GAP-I, 45 schemes were sanctioned by the NRCD. However,

there was delay in completion of GAP-I, works in the State due to delay in acquisition of land for pumping stations, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and litigation etc. This resulted in extension of completion. Till March 2000, 43 projects had been completed and the remaining two projects of sewage treatment plants at Patna and Munger were incomplete since a long time due to contractual disputes litigation etc. The Central Government has released funds against sanctioned cost of all the schemes including that for balance works and closed the scheme as on March 2000. Balance works are to be completed by the Government of Bihar and any excess in cost due to price escalation on account of time over-run is to be borne by them. For completing these two projects STP Patna and STP Munger, the Government of Bihar has released a sum of Rs. 193.50 lakh during the year 2003-2004. As per the commitment of the State Government, the works are expected to be completed by December, 2004.

The reasons for delay in the implementation of the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I are:

- (i) Lack of experience with the State implementing agencies, delay in land acquisition, litigations and court cases, contractual disputes and diversion of funds by the State Governments.
- (ii) Poor operation and maintenance of the assets created under the 'Ganga Action Plan' Phase-I.
- (iii) Erratic and poor availability of electricity for operating assets like pumping stations, sewage treatment plants and electric crematoria.

Under GAP-II, the NRCD has sanctioned 20 schemes till date, on the basis of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) received from the Government of Bihar. The State Government has reported that, out of these, 16 schemes have been completed and the position of remaining four schemes are as follows:

- (a) The Scheme of River Front Development (RFD) at Danapur is to be completed in April 2004.
- (b) The scheme of Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) at Sahebganj has been transferred to the Government of Jharkhand for execution.
- (c) The work of electric Crematoria at Danapur will be started after receiving revised sanction order of NRCD (The State Government is to provide the commitment to bear O&M cost of the revised cost estimate of the scheme for consideration and processing the case in the NRCD. The State Government is being requested for the same since 19.8.2002 along with several reminders.)
- (d) The work of one LCS unit at Buxar is stopped due to stay order of Hon'ble High Court.

The expenditure incurred on these schemes is Rs. 292.68 lakh till March, 2004.

9. In a reply to another recommendation of the Committee, the Ministry have furnished State-wise and scheme-wise statement of physical progress under GAP Phase-I and GAP Phase-II. The statement is shown in the Annexure.

10. The Committee had adversely commented upon the slow pace of developing infrastructure to control pollution in Ganga River. GAP-I, to be accomplished by March, 1990 was yet to be completed. The position regarding GAP-II, was equally bad as this scheme, which was to be completed in 2001, was extended till December, 2008. Consequently, the Committee had deplored the inefficiency and lack of foresight on the part of the implementing agencies, viz. Central, State Governments and contracted agencies. The Committee are not convinced by the arguments put forth by the Ministry that the delay in GAP-I was due to the lack of experience of the State implementing agencies, delay in land acquisition, litigations and Court cases, contractual disputes, diversion of funds by the State Governments besides poor operation and maintenance of the assets created under the 'Ganga Action Plan' Phase-I and poor availability of electricity for operating assets like pumping stations, sewage treatment plants and electric crematoria. The reasons cited by the Ministry are not such that they could not have been anticipated and tackled promptly & timely. The committee would also like to point out that instead of intimating the status of performance of all the concerned State Governments, the Ministry have provided the figures for Bihar only. This is nothing but casual manner in which the Ministry have chosen to reply to the specific recommendation of the Committee which is highly regrettable.

11. However, from a reply of the Ministry to another recommendation in the Original Report, the Committee find that in GAP-II, barring Delhi, 13 out of 90 schemes were incomplete in Haryana, 32 out of 195 schemes were incomplete in Uttar Pradesh, 75 out of 92 schemes were incomplete in West Bengal, 6 out of 18 schemes were incomplete in Bihar, 19 out of 29 schemes were incomplete in Uttaranchal and 4 out of 6 schemes were incomplete in Jharkhand as on June 2004. Thus, 149 schemes in total were still incomplete. The Committee are constrained to point out that the Ministry have furnished the updated position regarding implementation of schemes in the State of Bihar only. The Committee had expected the Ministry to furnish a comprehensive State-wise reply providing reasons for the overall delay in GAP-II with an objective analysis of the shortcomings/negligence of the implementing agencies, which was not done. They have also not cared to apprise the Committee about the reasons for not furnishing the complete and proper reply. The Committee take a serious view of the matter and desire that the Ministry should have furnished complete reply to all the specific points raised in their recommendation. Insofar as speedy completion of the remaining projects of GAP-II in all the States is concerned, the Committee feel that the Government must make a study to assess the actual progress of the plan and take suitable measures in coordination with concerned State Governments urgently to accelerate the pace of work because the present situation, if left unattended, would continue to deteriorate further, causing irreparable loss to the entire Ganga river-system.

**Financial Mismanagement
(Paragraph 15.12)**

12. The Committee, in paragraph 15.12 of their Original Report, had mentioned

about many instances of financial mismanagement by the State level implementing agencies, such as diversion of funds to the tune of Rs. 36.07 crore to unauthorized activities, incorrect reporting of Rs. 6.75 crore, parking of funds by Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP) in its own personal account amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore and unutilized funds with the implementing agencies to the tune of Rs. 72.62 crore, etc. The Committee had felt that there were serious shortcomings in financial management of the funds earmarked for various schemes under GAP at the level of States as well as NRCDD resulting into laxity in the working of various implementing agencies of the respective State Governments. The Committee had appreciated the formula to introduce reasonable user charges in order to make the scheme of GAP financially viable and had endorsed the proposal to introduce "beneficiaries pay" and "polluters pay" principles and other collective fine system to bear the cost of river cleaning programmes. The Committee had recommended to accept donations from willing contributors to boost the resources of GAP. To help make ever delicate financial condition of GAP schemes viable, the Committee had urged the Ministry of Environment & Forests to streamline the mechanism of earning revenues by utilizing the manure-rich treated sewage water and other byproducts etc. for irrigation purposes on payment basis.

13. In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry have forwarded the information received by them from the Government of West Bengal which states that released funds under GAP have been fully and properly utilized within the stipulated time schedule. They have also informed that State Government is taking steps to introduce user's charges for water supply and sewerage system to bear the partial cost of GAP and revenue is being earned by rearing fish, selling manure and treated sewage for irrigation purpose. Suggestions of accepting donations from willing contributors are under consideration of the State Government and they are also exploring the possibility of leasing out the ponds for pisciculture at Chandarnagar, Bhatpara and Teetagarh. According to them, scheme is also being worked out to sell the manure generated at the Howrah, Baranagar and Kamarhati Sewage Treatment Plants.

14. Regarding diversion of funds by Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), the Ministry have replied as under:—

"As per the information received from the BRJP, an amount of Rs. 86.08 lakh was diverted by the BRJP during the year 1986–89 for disbursement of salary to their staff which were deputed for implementation of Ganga Action Plan schemes. Receipt of the funds for this purpose from the State Government at the end of the financial years and that too being lesser than the required amount necessitated the BRJP for this diversion of funds for disbursement of salary to their staff to avoid disruption of the implementation and dissatisfaction of the staff. As per the BRJP, all of diverted amount has been recouped."

15. On the issue of parking of fund amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore by the BRJP in its own account, it has been informed in the Action Taken Note that this amount was

received by the BRJP from the State Government under its Plan/Non-Plan head on the following dates:

31.3.96	Rs. 22.00 Lakh
23.7.96 (for Land Acquisition)	Rs. 15.00 Lakh
31.3.97	Rs. 71.00 Lakh
31.3.96	Rs. 09.00 Lakh
Total	Rs. 117.00 Lakh

It has been further informed that the account of Plan/Non-Plan head is in the State Bank of India, Sachivalaya Branch, which belongs to the treasury. This amount was deposited by the BRJP in their account of the State Bank of India so that it could not be lapsed.

16. Regarding generating additional revenue, the Ministry have submitted, *vide* their Action Taken Note, as under:—

"The State Government has intimated that, to generate revenue with the intention of self-sustainable O&M of the GAP schemes, following steps have been taken up:

- (1) Auction of fish ponds—Fish ponds at STP Pahari (Southern Zone), Patna and STP, Bhagalpur have been auctioned for 3 years.
- (2) Sale of Sludge—Sale of sludge from Beur and Saidpur STPs, Patna is being finalised through an open tendering process. Sludge produced from the digester of activated sludge treatment has very high manure quality. It can be utilised for growing crops in place of artificial fertiliser.
- (3) User charges—user charges proposal is under serious consideration of the State Government for implementation.
- (4) Biogas utilisation—A proposal for utilising the gas produced at Beur STP has been prepared and it will be finalised very soon.
- (5) Utilisation of treated sewage water and other by-products etc. for irrigation purpose on payment basis is being prepared."

17. The Committee, in their Original Report, had brought to the notice of the Ministry of Environment & Forests the financial mismanagement by the State level implementing agencies, such as diversion of funds to unauthorized activities, incorrect reporting, parking of funds in personal account of Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP) and unutilized funds with the implementing agencies, etc. It was observed that serious shortcomings in financial management of the funds were resulting into laxity in the working of various implementing agencies of the respective State Governments. In response to these observations the Ministry have forwarded the replies received from only two States *viz.* West Bengal and Bihar in this regard. The Ministry are silent over the financial irregularities in other States, for example the diversion of funds in Uttar Pradesh, as noticed by the

Committee in their Original Report. From the reply furnished by the Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), the Committee infer that they have tried to justify the diversion of funds amounting to Rs. 86.08 lakh for disbursement of salary to their staff on the plea that it was done to avoid disruption of the implementation and dissatisfaction of the staff. As regards parking of funds amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore in their account, the Ministry have taken the stand that this amount was deposited by the BRJP in their account of the State Bank of India so that it could not be lapsed. The Committee are distressed to note that instead of furnishing plausible explanation for financial mismanagement, the Ministry have merely forwarded the State Government's reply which also seem to be unconvincing as much as that does not address the issues of diversion of funds, incorrect reporting, parking of fund and unutilized funds in totality. The Committee feel that instead of simply forwarding the replies submitted by a couple of States, the Ministry should have accorded adequate seriousness to an important issue like financial mismanagement by the implementing agencies and spelt out the measures taken by them to rectify the situation. The Committee had expected the Ministry to furnish a critical analysis of utilization of funds by each concerned State. What is surprising is the fact that there were serious shortcomings in financial management of the funds earmarked for various schemes under GAP not only at the level of States but at NRCDC also. They, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take suitable remedial steps and fix responsibility in order to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

18. The Committee had also desired the Ministry to generate additional resources by way of introducing user charges, 'beneficiaries pay' and 'polluters pay' principle along with other collective fine system, accepting donations from willing contributors and earning revenues by utilizing the manure rich treated sewage water and other by-products etc. for irrigation purposes on payment basis. The Ministry, in their Action Taken Note, have reproduced the replies received from West Bengal and Bihar State Governments narrating the efforts made by them in this regard, for instance, auction of fish ponds, sale of sludge, biogas utilization etc. The Committee, however, are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry as it does not specify in concrete terms the quantum of the positive results achieved in generating additional revenue by virtue of the efforts made by the States. They would like the Ministry to furnish the details of the amount earned by each State as additional revenue through the various aforesaid measures and as to how they are being utilized.

**Diseases due to pollution level increase
(Paragraph 15.18)**

19. The Committee had not accepted the argument put forth by the Ministry that delay in the implementation of Ganga Action Plan (GAP) was experienced due to its being the first of its kind of project in the country, because delays had been experienced in GAP-I as well as GAP-II and its components like Yamuna Action Plan (YAP), Gomati Action Plan (GoAP) & Damodar Action Plans. Rather the Committee were of the view that with no clear-cut standards or parameters for fixing responsibilities in GAP provisions, multiple irregularities had cropped up in the operation of GAP. In spite of the lacunae and shortcomings being pointed out by

expert reviews and the Ministry's own assessment, no significant remedial action had been initiated even when the Ministry were themselves aware of the solutions. Further, they had observed that no adequate attention was being given to the urgency that had been demanded by GAP, thereby compromising the health of about 40 per cent of population of India living in the Ganga Basin. The Committee had referred to a World Bank sponsored study which had concluded that in spite of the massive Rs. 1500 crore plan launched in the 80s to clean up the Ganga, the pollution levels in the river were continuing to be alarmingly high and were contributing to about 9 to 12 per cent of the total disease burden in Uttar Pradesh. The Committee had observed that there was no anticipation of coming events and planning responses in advance resulting in GAP becoming an uncoordinated and directionless amalgam of different departments/agencies. They had, therefore, urged the Ministry to reconstitute NRCA as an autonomous body like National River Linking Project.

20. In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry have stated as under:—

"The World Bank Sponsored study on the 'State of Environment Report and Action Plan for Uttar Pradesh' utilized a 'Water Quality Index' developed by National Sanitation Foundation of the United States which is not widely accepted as its subjective, does not provide used based risk and has other limitations. The study does not attribute the disease burden in Uttar Pradesh to the water quality of river Ganga alone.

In Contrast to this, an R&D study to evaluate the efficacy of schemes taken up under Ganga Action Plan in the towns of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Nabadwip (West Bengal) on the health of the people directly dependent on Ganga water revealed a decreasing trend in the incidence of water borne disease. However, the prevalence of helminthic infection skin disease and diarrhoea was observed in case of sewage farm workers handling treated sewage. The study was carried out by NEERI, Nagpur and All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Calcutta."

21. While disagreeing with the argument of the Ministry that delay in the implementation of GAP was attributed to its being the first of its kind of project in the country, the Committee in their earlier report had pointed out that delays were experienced not only in GAP-I, but also in the case of GAP-II and its components like YAP, GoAP & Damodar Action Plans. Expressing their concern on the irregularities that had cropped up in the operation of GAP due to absence of clear-cut criteria for fixing responsibilities in GAP provisions, the Committee had found that no significant remedial action was initiated by the Ministry in spite of being made aware of the lacunae and shortcomings by expert reviews. The Committee are disappointed to note from the Action Taken Note that the Ministry have not indicated any steps that have been taken with regard to the observation made by them with a view to curb overall delays, minimise irregularities and to implement GAP so as to attain intended goals without further loss of time. The Ministry have chosen to remain silent which reflect their lackadaisical approach in the entire matter.

22. The Committee had also pointed out that a World bank sponsored study had concluded that in spite of the massive Rs. 1500 crore plan launched in the 80s to clean up the Ganga, its pollution levels continued to be alarmingly high and were contributing to about 9 to 12 per cent of the total disease burden in Uttar Pradesh. The Committee had found that there were lack of adequate attention and anticipation of coming events and advance planning. They had, therefore, observed that the GAP had become unco-ordinated and directionless amalgam of different departments/agencies, and had urged the Ministry to reconstitute NRCA as an autonomous body like the National River Linking Project. Surprisingly, the Ministry, in their Action Taken Note, have chosen to challenge the findings of the World Bank sponsored study by calling it 'subjective' and 'gripped by other limitations'. According to them the study does not attribute the disease burden in Uttar Pradesh to water quality of river Ganga alone. On the other hand they have sought to bring forth an R&D study report relating to the schemes taken up under Ganga Action Plan in the towns of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Nabadwip (West Bengal), that has revealed a decreasing trend in the incidence of water borne diseases there. However, no facts and figures in this regard have been furnished. The Committee find no sustainable reason for the Ministry's reluctance in accepting that pollution level in the Ganga River are by far the biggest contributor in harbouring water borne diseases among the population residing on its banks. The Committee feel that the Ministry have tried to divert their attention from the core issue of the need for efficient and co-ordinated working of different departments/agencies related to the 'Ganga Action Plan'. As GAP seems to have become un-coordinated and directionless amalgam of different department/agencies, the Committee would like to reiterate that the Ministry should immediately take action to constitute the NRCA as an autonomous body like National River Linking Project.

Dumping of Dead Bodies/Carcasses (Paragraphs 15.23 & 15.35)

23. The Committee, in paragraph 15.23 of their Original Report, had expressed grave concern over the issue of dumping of dead bodies/animal carcasses causing worst pollution in the river. The Committee were of the view that no worthwhile efforts had been initiated so far for optimum operationalisation of the already established electric crematoria at Hardwar to prevent such pollution. In this context, the Committee did not agree with the general view of the Ministry that modern crematoria set up by the authorities have not been used by the people due to their faith and belief in the traditional cremation method. They were of the view that adequate public awareness was required for the use of modern crematoria. The Committee had also stressed the need for setting up improvised wood crematoria in Hardwar to prevent this environmentally challenging practice of throwing dead bodies/carcasses in the holy river.

24. The Ministry, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that necessary action in this regard is being initiated by the State Government.

25. Expressing grave concern over the throwing of dead bodies/carcasses in Ganga river, which they had witnessed for themselves, the Committee, in their Original Report, had specifically urged the concerned authorities to make efforts for optimum operationalisation of the already established electric crematoria at Hardwar and also for setting up improvised wood crematoria there in order to prevent the public from cremating bodies on the banks of the River. Further, the Committee had emphasized the need for enhancing public awareness for the use of modern crematoria. The Ministry have merely stated *vide* their Action Taken note that necessary action in this regard is being initiated by the State Government. The Committee are disappointed with the reply given by the Ministry which is too vague and devoid of any details. The Ministry have avoided providing specific information on the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government so far and difficulties, if any, being faced by them. In view of this, the Committee are doubtful whether any concrete action has been taken by the State Government at all in this regard. The Committee, therefore, strongly deplore the casual approach shown by the Ministry to a very specific recommendation of the Committee relating to a serious issue. The Committee have been left with no choice but to reiterate their earlier recommendation made in this regard. They expect a detailed, complete, clear and specific reply from the Ministry.

26. In paragraph 15.35 of their Original Report, the Committee had mentioned that during their study visit in Allahabad, they had seen many non-cremated dead bodies freely floating in river waters giving a distasteful spectacle to the visitors coming from far and wide. The Committee were apprised that due to religious significance of the city, many cremations were taking place on the bank of the river which was a major cause of pollution. The Committee had observed that this was because of ineffective public awareness campaign being initiated by any of the civic authorities to dissuade people from doing so. The Committee had recommended that the Ministry should come out with a concrete plan for an awareness campaign, even with the help of law enforcing agencies and religious seers, if necessary, to inculcate a scientific temper in the people, along with religious point of view so that people did not become compulsive partners in polluting a river they revere as 'holy'.

27. In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry have merely forwarded the information received from Uttar Pradesh State Government that Superintendent of Police has already been instructed to take necessary action to stop throwing of non-cremated dead bodies into the rivers.

28. The Committee had, in their Original Report, raised a very pertinent issue of initiating a public awareness campaign with the help of law enforcing agencies and religious seers, if necessary, to inculcate a scientific temper in the people, so that the horrendous practice of throwing non-cremated dead bodies in the river could be checked. In their reply, the Ministry have furnished the information received from U.P. State Government that the Superintendent of Police has already been instructed to take necessary action to stop this practice. The Committee feel that this is yet another example of an extremely casual approach on the part of the Government to a

very serious matter. They have gathered the impression that the Government have not only taken their recommendation very lightly, but have also sought to shirk their responsibility of planning and carrying out a mass awareness campaign to make public realise the importance of keeping the river clean. The Committee strongly deplore the careless attitude of the Government for having treated a vexed question of raising mass awareness campaign against throwing non-cremated dead bodies in the holy river as a simple law and order problem, which can be handled by a Superintendent of Police. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should assign due priority to such an important and far reaching issue concerning certain conventional and religious beliefs and ensure that the State Government takes it up at the highest level with utmost seriousness. The Committee also desire that the action taken in this regard may be intimated to them in due course.

ANNEXURE
(Chapter 1, Para 9)

State-wise & Scheme-wise Physical Progress Under GAP Phase-I & GAP Phase-II

(As on June 2004)

States	I&D		STP		LCS		CRE		RFD		OTH		TOTAL		
	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	
GANGA ACTION PLAN-I															
U.P.	40	40	13	13	14	14	3	3	8	8	28	28	106	106	
Bihar	17	17	7	5	7	7	8	8	3	3	3	3	45	43	
W.B.	31	31	15	15	22	22	17	17	24	24	1	1	110	110	
Total (GAP-I)	88	88	35	33	43	43	28	28	35	35	32	32	261	259	
GANGA ACTION PLAN-II															
Delhi	0	0	7	7	2	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	12	12	
Haryana	30	26	27	23	12	12	7	6	1	1	13	9	90	77	
U.P.	80	87	40	35	26	21	13	12	4	3	32	25	195	163	
W.B.	42	0	18	0	4	4	7	4	19	9	2	0	92	17	
Bihar	0	0	0	0	7	5	1	0	10	7	0	0	18	12	
Uttaranchal	9	2	3	1	10	1	0	0	6	6	1	0	29	10	
Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	2	
Total (GAP-II)	161	95	95	66	66	46	30	24	41	27	49	35	442	293	
Grand Total	249	183	130	99	109	89	58	52	76	62	81	67	703	552	
SAN-SANCTIONED	I&D-Interception & Diversion				STP-Sewage Treatment Plant										
COMP-COMPLETED	LCS-Low Cost Sanitation				RFD-River Front Development										
	CRE-Crematoria (IWC + EC)				OTH-Other schemes										
	IWC-Improved wood Crematoria				EC-Electric Crematoria										

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

The Ganga River along with its tributaries is the lifeline for 40% of the population of our country. Its waters are used for drinking and irrigation purposes mainly, in addition to navigation and development of flora and fauna in and around the river-system. A number of large, medium and small towns have come up on the river-banks, which release their sewage waste directly into the river system, water of which over a period of time became unusable, non-drinkable and even unsuitable for irrigation purposes. Consequentially the aqualife also started becoming extinct due to pollutants in the water. Many environmental studies proved this effect on the flora & fauna of the areas which irrigated or otherwise used this water system. It was the vision of the then Prime Minister, who decided to launch Ganga Action Plan. Action Plant-I was launched in 1985 to cleanse the River Ganga in first instance and later on Ganga Action Plan-II was launched in 1993 which included the tributaries of River Ganga namely Yamuna, Gomati and Damodar. States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal were to implement GAP-I and States of Uttranchal, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal were to implement GAP-II. Major task was to tackle pollution from municipal sewage which accounted for about 75% of the river pollution, by creating facilities like Sewage Treatment Plants, Industrial Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) toilet complexes, electric crematoria, improvement of bathing ghats, river front developments etc.

[(Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.1 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Progress with respect to sewage treatment plants, interception & diversion, toilet complexes, crematoria, river front development/bathing ghats, industrial effluent treatment plants etc. achieved under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I and under Ganga Action Plan Phase-II so far is given below:—

State-wise & Scheme-wise Physical Progress Under GAP Phase-I & GAP Phase-II

(As on June 2004)

States	I&D		STP		LCS		CRE		RFD		OTH		TOTAL	
	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.	SAN.	COMP.
GANGA ACTION PLAN-I														
U.P.	40	40	13	13	14	14	3	3	8	8	28	28	106	106
Bihar	17	17	7	5	7	7	8	8	3	3	3	3	45	43
W.B.	31	31	15	15	22	22	17	17	24	24	1	1	110	110
Total (GAP-I)	88	88	35	33	43	43	28	28	35	35	32	32	261	259
GANGA ACTION PLAN-II														
Delhi	0	0	7	7	2	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	12	12
Haryana	30	26	27	23	12	12	7	6	1	1	13	9	90	77
U.P.	80	67	40	35	26	21	13	12	4	3	32	25	195	163
W.B.	42	0	18	0	4	4	7	4	19	9	2	0	92	17
Bihar	0	0	0	0	7	5	1	0	10	7	0	0	18	12
Uttaranchal	9	2	3	1	10	1	0	0	6	6	1	0	29	10
Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	2
Total (GAP-II)	161	95	95	66	66	46	30	24	41	27	49	35	442	293
Grand Total	249	183	130	99	109	89	58	52	76	62	81	67	703	552

SAN—SANCTIONED
COMP—COMPLETED

I&D-Interception & Diversion
LCS-Low Cost Santation
CRE-Crematoria (IWC + EC)
IWC-Improved wood Crematoria,

STP-Sewage Treatment Plant
RFD-River Front Development
OTH-Other schemes
EC-Electric Crematoria

Summary Status of the 68 Industries identified under the Ganga Action Plan
(Phase-I) (As on June 30, 2004)

Sl.No.	Status	Number of Industries			Total
		U.P.	Bihar	W.B.	
1.	ETP installed	17	03	20	40
2.	Industries closed	17	02	09	28
Total		34	05	29	68

State-wise Status of the 119 Grossly Polluting Industries identified along the
river Ganga in Phase-II (As on June 30, 2004)

Sl.No.	State	Total Number of Industries	No. of Industries closed	No. of Industries which have installed ETP	No. of Industries Defaulting
1.	Uttar Pradesh	83	23	60	00
2.	Bihar	03	00	03	00
3.	West Bengal	33	03	30	00
Total		119	26	93	00

ETP: Effluent Treatment Plant.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Audit in their review covering the period of 1993-2000 had stated in their Report that Ganga Action Plan has met only 39% of its primary target of sewage treatment, according to the performance reported by the participating States. There were heavy shortfalls in the achievement of targets set for creation of assets and facilities under the Plan. Even the achievements made, were poor indicators of the extent of success of the Ganga Action Plan schemes, as most of them had not functioned either fully or functioned only partially for varied reasons.

[(Sl.No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.3 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The heavy shortfalls in achievement of targets set for creation of assets were delays in the implementation of GAP-II because of various reasons. Before 1997 GAP-II was started on cost sharing basis between States and the Centre on 50:50 basis which was not palatable to States and ultimately it was made 100% centrally aided programme from 1997. The conventional technologies proposed earlier did

not address to be problem of bacterial pollution. Hence it was decided that ponds based sewage treatment may be adopted in all places. As ponds require large areas of land, some of these States Governments could not provide such area of land in large towns which account for major chunk of capital cost. Also, the transfer of money from State Governments to implementing agencies was invariably delayed in almost all States and the quality of DPRs received from States were also not up to the mark.

Since the achievements made in GAP-II were poor indicators of success, the Ministry has an action plan to ensure proper operation and maintenance of assets. It has now been decided that the responsibility of O&M of assets will be borne entirely by the local body with the assistance from the State Government. A well documented O&M plan will form part of the detailed Project Reports to be submitted by States Govts. A firm commitment will be given by the local body that it agrees to bear the entire cost of O&M after a stipulated period of 3 to 5 years. The State Government shall give an undertaking that the assets are properly operated and maintained and any shortfall in resources will be met by them.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30.11.2004]

Recommendation

The Committee also note that the Ministry did not fix any time schedule for submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), the basic document for expenditure sanction needed from the States for phase-II of the Plan. Even though Supreme Court has fixed a time frame of 3 months for submission of DPRs by the States to the Ministry and 30 days for the Ministry to sanction the projects, the Committee note that no monitoring mechanism was in place in the Ministry which could ensure the adherence to the time frame fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. They are astonished to note that the monitoring system of such a prestigious and important plan is the weakest link. There is no detailed record of the outcome of the field visits, and review meetings with implementing agencies by the National Rivers Conservation Directorate (NRCD) and also of the follow up action as has been envisaged in the Plan itself. State Governments of Haryana, Bihar and Delhi did not constitute Citizen Monitoring Committees (CMCs) in any of the towns situated on the banks of the Rivers. West Bengal Government had constituted these Committees only in 5 of 42 towns selected for implementation of GAP. Even the constituted CMCs of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal met only infrequently and not periodically. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Monitoring Committees should be set up at every level, starting from Citizen Monitoring Committees to the Apex Monitoring Committees and there should be periodical monitoring of all the schemes of GAP. These Committees should oversee the progress of work of all the schemes under GAP and ensure their timely completion. They should also fix responsibility for any diversion of funds of GAP or unnecessary delay in execution of its work.

[(Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.5 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The Ministry did fix the time schedule for submission of DPRs for major projects. However, these could not be adhered to due to delays in submission of DPRs, by the State Governments. A comprehensive monitoring mechanism at the Centre and the State level is in place for Ganga Action Plan. The programme is being monitored by an Apex Committee called National River Conservation Authority (NRCA) which is Chaired by the Prime Minister. There is a Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Environment & Forests which reviews the programme on a quarterly basis in addition a Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of a Member, Planning Commission also reviews the progress on a quarterly basis. At the State level, there is a nodal department and a nodal implementing agency earmarked for this programme. The Secretary of the Nodal Department reviews the progress on a regular basis. All these Committees monitor the progress and ensure adherence of the time schedule. The NRCD is also maintaining records in the form of Management Information System indicating the progress of work being implemented.

The Govt. of Haryana constituted Citizen Monitoring Committees in February 2000 to guide and monitor construction work of YAP Phase-I and these have been quite helpful for the purpose they have been formed.

The Govt. of Bihar has intimated that seven nos. of Citizen Monitoring Committees have been constituted by Urban Development Department, Govt. of Bihar vide letter No. 981 dated 10.5.97, No. 976 dated 6.3.97, No. 979 dated 6.3.97, No. 924 dated 4.3.97, No. 923 dated 4.3.97, No. 921 dated 4.3.97 and No. 922 dated 4.3.97.

The State Government has intimated that the monitoring of GAP works in the State is being done at the highest administrative level. The progress is reviewed every month by the Principal Secretary (Urban Development) and quarterly by the Minister-in-Charge. Regarding constitution of Citizens Monitoring Committee in West Bengal, the State Government has informed that the Citizens Monitoring Committees in the left out towns are being constituted shortly.

The estimates of the towns under GAP -II were initially submitted to NRCD in 1995-96 through the PFRs. However, the costs of eleven schemes as per the DPRs submitted by the Uttaranchal Government are much above the CCEA's approved cost. State Government has requested to sanction these schemes from the inter-town savings, which is under consideration.

Although Citizen Monitoring Committees have been constituted for all the towns in Uttaranchal, sufficient meetings could not be held at desired intervals due to lack of quorum. The State Government has intimated that necessary action is being taken to hold the meetings of Citizen Monitoring Committees regularly.

The Delhi Govt. has intimated that the monitoring the YAP works in the State is being done at the highest administrative levels. The progress has been reviewed on regular basis to complete the schemes in time. Regarding constitution of Citizen Monitoring Committee, the State Govt. has informed that CMC is the left over part of YAP. However, the other Committees namely Water Consultative Committee, Water

Quality Assessment Authority have been set up to oversee improvement of river Yamuna water quality.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No H-11012/1/2004-NRCD, dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee note that out of total target of 1912 mld Treatment of sewage waste under GAP-II only 13.7% of the capacity could be achieved till December 2001 and only 780 mld sewage treatment capacity has been created till October 2003 which is less than 45% of the targeted capacity. Out of approved cost of GAP-II of Rs. 2285.48 crore excluding establishment charges, an amount of Rs. 792.38 crore has been released till 30 November, 2003. The dates for completion of GAP-II are being revised again and again. Earlier the revised completion date was fixed as December 2005 but now the Ministry has informed the Committee that as the second phase of Gomati Action Plan and Yamuna Action Plan have been approved for completion by March 2007 and September 2008 respectively, so the GAP-II is now targeted to be completed by December 2008. The Committee observe that the considerable time overruns in the execution of schemes in a time bound manner is indicative of failure of the States and the NRCD to work together for implementation of various schemes of GAP-I and II.

[(SI. No.XV Appendix-1 para 15.6 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13 th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Out of the total target of 2210 mld treatment of sewage waste under GAP-II, a capacity of 1345 mld has been sanctioned so far. Out of sanctioned 1345 mld STP, 783 mld sewage treatment capacity (59%) has been created till December 2003. Out of the approved cost of GAP-II of Rs. 2285.48 crore, excluding establishment charges an amount of Rs. 804.07 crore has been released till 31 March 2004.

The major reason for revising the date of completion of projects under GAP-II was due to contractual disputes between the Contractor and the State Government delay in acquisition of land for implementation of schemes, Litigation problems, Court cases etc. Also, the schemes of Gomati Action Plan Phase-II which is a part of Ganga Action Plan Phase-II was sanctioned only in March, 2003 and the target date of completion of GAP-II is in line with that of GoAP-II which is September, 2008.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee find that GAP, as is being implemented, has been more of a piecemeal solution for tackling a complex problem and fails to treat the river eco-system entirely. The committee, therefore, feel that there should be a provision of the creation of river

regulation zone under an autonomous body with the NGOs and panchyats/local bodies executing its target based plans and programmes. Another area which the Committee liked to draw the attention of the Ministry, is the problem of soil erosion which has been posing a serious threat to the very survivability of the pumping stations, STPs in areas like Malda, Murshidabad, Hooghly, Howrah and Uluberia in West Bengal. The Committee therefore, desire that the Ministry should take concrete measures in this regard in GAP.

[(Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.7 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The West Bengal State Government has been asked to take suitable protective measures to save the GAP assets due to the problem of soil erosion in the towns of Malda, Murshidabad, Hooghly, Howrah and Uluberia. Further, the State Government has decided to drop 17 schemes of core and non-core under GAP-II in the towns of Dhulian Chakdah and Jangipur which are also prone to soil erosion.

In West Bengal State a separate technical body namely Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, having qualified staff has been entrusted to implement the programme. KMDA has also established a division under a chief engineer especially dedicated for GAP works.

In Uttaranchal State a separate technical body Uttaranchal Peyjal Sansadhan Vikas Evam Nirman Nigam having qualified staff has been entrusted to implement the programme. In State's view it is not possible to handle the problem by the NGOs or the local bodies.

Towards addressing the complex problem of treating the river eco-systems entirely, the Ministry is examining the various approaches, one of which pertains to rehabilitation of degraded upper catchment areas with a view to augment the flow regimes. Preliminary steps have been taken to device a demonstration project in the upper degraded micro-catchments of river Tons, a tributary of river Yamuna through collection of baseline data for which satellite imageries of th area in question are proposed to be obtained from National Remote Sensing Agency (NRCA). The modalites of the suggestion of the provision of creation of river regulation zone under an autonomous body with the NGOs and Panchyats/local bodies are yet to be examined.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are constrained to note that Bihar Government could not obtain any sanction for the core schemes of interception and diversion scheme of sewer lines in phase II of GAP, because it did not submit Detailed Project Reports as per NRCD's guidelines. Also, Bihar and West Bengal Government could not obtain saction for any core schemes of Sewage Treatment Plant in the Phase II of the Plan. The reasons for Bihar were stated to be because of unsatisfactory operation and maintenance of assets created during phase-I and for West Begal, because the State Government did not confirm the availability of land. Many instances have come to the

notice of Audit of avoidable delays leading to cost escalation, idling of the plants, mismatch with interception & divergence of schemes, technical flaws, diversion of resources etc. which showed lackadaisical approach in the conception and execution of Plan Schemes by Implementing Agencies. It also speaks volumes of the inefficiency of the GAP implementing agencies of the State Governments, which gave no importance to such schemes which is the life-line of majority of Bihar and Bengal population in terms of drinking water, irrigation facilities, navigational importance and pisciculture etc. The Committee strongly recommend that such matters should be taken up at the highest administrative levels of the State Governments to expedite the completion of GAP-I & II both as per their schedules.

[(Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.8 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The Govt. of Bihar has intimated that 5 Nos. of following STPs under GAP-I have been functional and operating regularly since 2000:

- (1) STP, Saidpur
- (2) STP, Pahari
- (3) STP, Beur
- (4) STP, Chapra
- (5) STP, Bhagalpur

They have also intimated that inspite of the financing crunch of the State Govt., fund to the tune of Rs. 270 lakh for operation and maintenance of these assets is being regularly released by the State Govt. for the last two years. Additional fund of Rs. 199 lakh also has been sanctioned and released by the State Govt. for the special repairs of the different components of projects of STPs/I&Ds created under GAP-I to the Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad. These special repair works are in progress and are to be completed by October, 2004. After completion of these works, all projects of STPs/I&Ds will be functional to their full capacity.

In addition, the State Govt. has intimated that fund has been made available to the BRJP in the year 2003-04 for completion of 2 Nos. of incomplete STPs under GAP-I viz., (i) STP, Patna and (ii) STP, Munger. Remaining work of the both incomplete schemes have been started and are in progress and are to be completed by December, 2004.

As per the State Govt., they are regularly monitoring the functioning of the GAP-I & GAP-II schemes in Bihar at highest level to achieve the goal of the GAP schemes.

Regarding the sanction of DPRs for core & non-core schemes under GAP-II, it is being submitted that on scrutiny of the DPRs, it came to notice that in 28 DPRs, crucial details and requisite information as well as commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M and land cost, wherever applicable, are not furnished, which are necessary. This proves as a handicap to process the DPRs for necessary sanction. These DPRs have been sent back to the State to rectify them.

With a view to streamline consideration of the DPRs received in the NRCD for NRCP works from the various State Govt., the NRCP has approved check lists for DPRs, to facilitate proper preparation of the DPRs by the implementing agencies and to ensure that all important details and pre-requisite information is furnished by the proponent at the time of submission of DPRs. These check-lists have been prepared to serve as a guidance to ensure the availability of all requisite information for purpose of processing of the DPRs.

Accordingly, these checklists have been provided to the BRJP on 9.2.2004 and they have been requested to submit new/recasted DPRs to the NRCD through the State Govt. in future, along with information duly filled in as per checklists and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M and land cost, wherever, applicable.

The State Govt. has also been requested that it should be ensured to send the DPRs of the core schemes viz., I&D and STP of a town along with that of land acquisition so that these are sanctioned all together by the NRCD to avoid mismatch.

In case of 2 non-core schemes, the commitment of the State Govt. has not been furnished and thus consequent inability of the NRCD to process the proposals. Moreover, the State Govt. is yet to submit 12 core and non-core scheme DPRs under GAP-II till now.

The status of new DPRs/Recasted DPRs yet to be submitted by the State Govt. under GAP-II is attached as *Annexure-I*.

The BRJP/State Govt. are being pursued regularly for submission of balance DPRs for all the towns of Bihar covered under GAP-II at the earliest.

The West Bengal State Government has informed that all the schemes under GAP-I have been fully commissioned. All the DPRs under GAP-II have been recently submitted by the State Government. A total of 52 schemes of I&D and STP for the treatment of 77.48 mld of sewage have been sanctioned under GAP-II in West Bengal. 25 of these schemes are in the advance stage of completion and are expected to be completed by 31st March, 2005. So as to expedite the acquisition of land for the various schemes the State Government has delegated the power for land acquisition to the local District Magistrate.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004 -NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

DPRs/Recasted DPRs yet to be submitted by the State Govt. Under Ganga Action Plan-II (Main Stem) & Ganga Action Plan-II (Supreme Court Towns) In Bihar

Interception & Diversion—I&D, Sewage Treatment Plant—STP, Low Cost Sanitation — LCS, Crematoria — CRE, Land Acquisition — LA, River Front Development — RFD, Solid Waste Management — SWM, Public Participation — PP

Town	Scheme	CCEA approved cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Status
1	2	3	4
Ganga Action Plan-II (Main Stem)			
1. Arrah	I&D	46.65	DPR of Rs. 157.10 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 29.11.97. On scrutiny of DPR, it was found that DPR did not contain checklist of DPR as well as consent of proposal by the local body, which is mandatory while submission. These were sought from the State Govt. on 19.1.98. Modified DPR of Rs. 191.75 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 7.8.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished along with the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. DPR was sent back to BRJP 24.2.04. with request to rectify it and send through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	STP	151.20	DPR of Rs. 377.80 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 2.1.98. On scrutiny of the DPR, technical clarifications as well as consent of

1	2	3	4
			proposal by the local body sought by NRCD on 9.2.98. Modified DPR of Rs. 416.12 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 7.8.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished along with the DPR. DPR was scrutinized and it has come to notice that it is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR has been sent back to BRJP on 24.2.04 to rectify it and send through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	SWM	24.73	DPR of Rs. 143.21 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 2.4.03. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR has been sent back to BRJP on 24.2.2004. Among other deficiencies, it was also pointed out that proposal for segregation, processing and disposal of municipal solid waste has not been taken care of in the DPR. BRJP has been requested to rectify the DPR and send it through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
2. Barh	CRE	47.09	DPR For Electric Crematoria of Rs.71.12 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 27.3.96. The State Govt. was requested on 13.8.96 to revise the DPR based on improved wood crematoria since, by the experience gained under GAP-I it was felt that provision of electric crematoria will not be proper for town like Barh, keeping sustainability of such assets in mind. Reminder was sent on 26.8.96. DPR for Diesel Crematoria costing Rs. 50.73 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 25.3.03.

1	2	3	4
			Commitment to bear O&M cost by the State Govt. not furnished while submitting the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to BRJP on 4.3.04 and drawing reference to the letter of NRCD dated 13.8.06 (above referred) addressed to State Govt. BRJP has been requested to rectify the DPR and send it through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
3. Bhagalpur	LCS	3.56	DPR of Rs. 3.56 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 8.12.03. Processing of the DPR could not be undertaken due to non-availability of commitment of State Govt. to bear O&M cost, which is mandatory. This DPR was forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them and thus the consequent inability to process the proposal.
	LA	12.30	DPR of Rs. 288.32 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 8.12.03. The State Govt. forwarded the DPR on 7.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear land cost has not been furnished while forwarding the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 6.2.04. and they have been requested to rectify the DPR and send it along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear land cost.
	I&D	379.08	DPR of Rs. 636.229 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 8.12.03. The State Govt. forwarded the

1	2	3	4
			DPR on 7.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost was not furnished while forwarding the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. The DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 16.2.04. and requested to send the revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	STP	34.56	DPR of Rs. 160.50 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 8.12.03. DPR forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt., to bear O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR returned to the State Govt. on 16.2.04. and requested to send the revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	SWM	61.78	DPR of Rs. 153.09 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 7.4.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while submitting the DPR. Revised DPR of Rs. 96.28 Lakh forwarded by the State Government. on 7.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. DPR returned to the State Govt. on 16.2.04. and requested to send the revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR

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4. Buxar	CRE	40.50	<p>and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p> <p>DPR For Electric Crematoria of Rs. 67.53 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 17.10.96. NRCD indicated to BRJP on 6.11.96 its view that the electric crematoria would not be acceptable to people due to (i) power supply problem, (ii) less use of electric crematoria because of sentiments attached with conventional burning & consequently wood based crematoria well accepted by the people. It was conveyed that wood based crematoria would be best solution. Reminder for submission of the DPR to BRJP was sent on 28.5.01. BRJP submitted DPR for Diesel Crematoria of Rs. 50.73 Lakh on 25.3.03. DPR returned to BRJP on 4.3.04 intimating that on scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. BRJP has been requested to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
	STP	16.85	<p>DPR of Rs. 47.72 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 19.2.02. Since the cost of proposed scheme was exceeding CCEA approved cost, BRJP/State Govt. was requested on 12.8.02 to submit the requisite information in formats of Min. of Finance, scheme-wise for all the projects under the NRCP in respect of all the towns of Bihar so that further action can be taken to get the review conducted for accommodating the excess cost. DPR returned to the State Govt. on 4.3.04 intimating that on scrutiny of the DPR, it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are required for processing the proposal. The State Govt. has been</p>

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	RFD	11.88	<p>requested to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p> <p>DPR of Rs. 19.15 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 17.10.96. BRJP was requested on 6.11.96 to submit revised DPR with reduced cost within CCEA approved cost. Reminder was sent on 18.11.97. Revised DPR of Rs. 12.52 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 16.3.02. The State Govt. forwarded this DPR on 11.7.02. Commitment to bear O&M cost was not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The State Govt. was intimated on 4.3.03 that approved cost of RFD component is Rs. 11.88 Lakh only and the proposed cost is still exceeding the approved cost. Moreover, the commitment to bear O&M cost has also not been received. On scrutiny of the DPR, it was found to be lacking in important details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. One of the major deficiencies has been noticed wherein the town map showing the location of proposed works has not been attached with the DPR. The DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 8.3.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
5. Chapra	I&D	143.21	<p>DPR of Rs. 160.80 Lakh received from BRJP on 31.3.03. On scrutiny of the DPR, it has been found that presently sewage generation is about 10 mld while STP capacity of 2 mld has been created under GAP-I. It is very necessary that interception & diversion of additional sewage and provision for its treatment to achieve designated standards should be created under GAP-II to ensure that no further sewage pollutes the river</p>

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			Ganga. DPR has been returned to BRJP on 27.5.03 with request to furnish DPRs of I&D, STP & LA.
	SWM	24.41	It has been decided by NRCD to drop this scheme and utilize the saving of this component for sanction of core schemes of the town. Accordingly, the DPR of SWM has been returned to BRJP on 27.5.03.
6. Fatwah	CRE	47.09	DPR for Electric Crematoria of Rs. 71.40 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 27.3.96. The State Govt. was requested on 14.5.96 to provide (i) details about population, mortality rate and existing burning facilities, (ii) checklist & (iii) reasons for providing electric crematoria instead of wood based crematoria. The State Govt. was requested to recast the DPR on above lines and submit. DPR for Diesel Crematoria of Rs. 58.88 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 7.4.03. On scrutiny of the DPR, it was found that, among other deficiencies, plan of the town and consequently location of the proposed works & layout plan of the works have not been attached with the DPR. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost has also not been furnished. The DPR has been returned to BRJP on 24.2.2004 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	LA	1.00	Yet to be received from the State Govt.
7. Munger	CRE	47.08	Scheme for Electric Crematoria was sanctioned by NRCD for an amount of Rs. 48.45 Lakh on 12.3.96. Work was yet to be started till April, 99 and consequently, based on the unsatisfactory performance of such assets created under GAP-I in Bihar, the State Govt. was intimated on 6.5.99 that the implementation of this scheme may be deferred till such time it is established that

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			<p>the scheme would be sustainable. Subsequently, the State Govt. was intimated on 3.6.99 about the decision of NRCD to drop the aforesaid sanctioned project and it was suggested that the State Govt. may submit a proposal for improved wood crematoria. Reminder was sent on 2.7.02. BRJP submitted DPR for Diesel Crematoria (DC) of Rs. 51.92 Lakh for Chharrapatti on 25.3.03. Another revised DPR for DC of Rs. 51.57 Lakh for Chharrapatti forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear O&M cost not provided while forwarding the DPR by them. On scrutiny of the DPR, it was found that proposal in the DPR constitute of construction of DC at Chharrapatti, which is a village in the Distt. of Begusarai and is located on the other bank of river Ganga almost opposite to Munger town. The State Govt. was intimated on 3.3.04 that Chharrapatti is not covered under GAP-II (MS) thus rendering the DPR unnecessary for sanction and requested to furnish the response of State Govt. on above which is still awaited.</p>
	LA	0.50	Yet to be received from the State Govt.
	SWM	31.21	<p>DPR of Rs. 98.49 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 17.10.97. After scrutiny of the DPR, it was found to be lacking in crucial details and accordingly BRJP was requested on 7.11.96 to revise the DPR as per NRCD guidelines. Reminder was sent on 28.5.2001. The State Govt. was requested on 19.2.2002 to drop the project since project cost, taking into consideration of provision of work as per the MSW Rules, 2000, shall increase many times over the CCEA approved cost. BRJP submitted DPR of Rs. 192.28 Lakh on 25.3.03. Revised DPR of Rs. 138.00 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 4.12.03. Commitment to bear O&M cost was also not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it was found to be</p>

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			still lacking in crucial details and important information. The DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 27.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
8. Patna	I&D	519.26	DPR of Rs. 269.72 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 25.3.03. In the DPR, proposal was made for conveyance of sewage of Kankarbag outfall drain through a closed conduit to the existing STP at Pahari of 25 mld treatment capacity, constructed under GAP-I. After scrutiny of the proposal, it has been noted that existing STP capacity is not sufficient to treat the additional sewage resulting in its overflow to the river. BRJP was conveyed on 3.3.04 that the approach should be to deal with the enhancement of treatment capacity of the STP at Pahari instead of covering the drain, which does not fall on priority items in the NRCP works and the work relating to coverage of drains could be taken up by the State Govt. out of their own resources. BRJP was also conveyed that in the resultant analysis, above subject proposal does not merit consideration of NRCD.
			Relevant DPR yet to be received.
	STP	195.16	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	LA	43.50	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	SWM	329.40	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
9. Sultan Ganj	CRE	47.08	DPR for Electric Crematoria of Rs. 80.58 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 3.7.96. The State Govt. was requested on 12.8.96 to revise the DPR with diesel operated furnace, though IWC would have been better choice, considering the religious importance of the town and also sought information about No. of dead bodies cremated in the last 3 years. DPR for Diesel Crematoria of Rs. 62.70 Lakh

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			submitted by BRJP on 25.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while submitting the DPR. Revised DPR of Rs. 50.538 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 4.12.03. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them. Aforesaid DPR was scrutinized and it has come to notice that the DPR is lacking in crucial details. On of the major deficiencies is that index plan of the town showing the location of site for installation of crematoria and also layout plan of the project site have not been annexed with the DPR. The DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 27.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	LA	0.50	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
Ganga Action Plan-II (Supreme Court Towns)			
1. Hajipur	I&D	123.09	DPR of Rs. 261.55 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 30.12.96. BRJP was requested on 22.12.97 to recast the DPR on the basis of various points emerged during discussion with the officers of BRJP in NRCD. Reminder was sent on 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded the revised DPR of Rs. 151.32 Lakh on 1.7.98. After scrutiny of the DPR, observations/comments on the proposal were conveyed to the State Govt. on 21.7.98 with request to modify it. Reminder was sent on 25.7.2001 to the State Govt. Recasted DPR of Rs. 156.74 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 18.3.03. During scrutiny of the DPR & discussion with BRJP officers, it was found that sewage is not outfalling into the river and, instead, is collecting in ponds away from the river course. Letter has been sent to Bihar on 14.7.03 to send their comments on the matter. Further revised DPR of Rs. 169.84 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on

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			4.12.2003, which again mentions that sewage is not outfalling in the river. The reply of comments from the State Govt. and their commitment of O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. Meanwhile, the DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. The DPR was sent back to the State Govt. on 25.2.2004 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. & reply of the comments sought by NRCD.
	STP	82.56	DPR of Rs. 289.74 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 30.12.96. There after, revised DPR of Rs. 161.20 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 16.5.97. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while forwarding the DPR. After scrutiny of the DPR, BRJP was intimated on 11.11.97 about different population figures adopted in I&D and STP DPRs, apart from other points. BRJP was requested on 22.12.97 to recast the DPR on the basis of various points emerged during discussion with the officers of BRJP. Reminder was sent on 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded recasted DPR of Rs. 118.50 Lakh on 1.7.98. After scrutiny of the DPR, observations/comments on the DPR were sent to the State Govt. on 24.7.98 State Govt. forwarded modified DPR of Rs. 78.62 Lakh on 5.7.2000. After scrutiny of the DPR, shortcomings in teh proposal were pointed out of the State Govt. on 22.8.2000 with request to revise the DPR. Reminder was sent on 16.7.01. Revised DPR of Rs. 244.53 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 4.12.03. Their commitment to bear O&M cost was not furnished. Meanwhile, the DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information,

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			which are necessary for processing the proposal. The DPR has been sent back to the State Govt. on 25.2.2004 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. & reply of the comments sought by NRCD.
	AFF	3.40	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	RFD	19.53	DPR of Rs. 29.12 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 16.5.97. After scrutiny of the DPR, deficiencies in the DPR were pointed out to the State Govt. on 6.2.98. Recasted DPR of Rs. 58.77 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 18.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished with the DPR. On scrutiny of the DPR, it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. The DPR has been sent back to BRJP on 25.2.2004 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. & reply of the comments sought by NRCD.
	SWM	61.78	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	PP	2.27	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
2. Khel Gaon	I&D	27.79	DPR of Rs. 96.17 Lakh received from the State Govt. on 16.5.97. After scrutiny of the DPR, observations were provided to BRJP on 17.10.97 with request to revise the DPR, which should also contain the information regarding approval of the proposal, by the local body, O&M agency, O&M cost, arrangements to meet O&M cost. Reminder sent by NRCD on 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded revised DPR of Rs. 28.00 Lakh on 24.6.2000. After scrutiny of the DPR, shortcomings in the proposal were intimated

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			<p>to the State Govt. on 24.8.00. Modified DPR of Rs. 98.24 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 18.3.2003. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished with the DPR. The State Govt. forwarded further modified DPR of Rs. 202.66 Lakh on 4.12.2003. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. Meanwhile, the DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. The DPR has been returned to BRJP on 24.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
	STP	33.97	<p>DPR of Rs. 186.46 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 24.12.96. Thereafter, the State Govt. sent a revised DPR of Rs. 75.80 Lakh on 16.5.97. The proposal of the DPR was discussed with the officers of BRJP on 29 to 31.5.97 and BRJP was requested on 26.6.97 to provide cost variance analysis since project cost was exceeding the CCEA cost. Reminder was sent to BRJP on 23.7.97. In continuation, observations on the DPR, after scrutiny, were sent to the State Govt. on 31.7.97. Reminders were sent to the State Govt. on 17.10.97, 21.1.98 and 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded modified DPR of Rs. 37.00 Lakh on 24.6.00. After scrutiny of the DPR, clarifications on the proposal of the DPR were sought from BRJP on 22.8.00. Recasted DPR of Rs. 58.40 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 18.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished with the DPR. Another revised DPR of Rs. 35.22 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR.</p>

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			<p>Meanwhile, the DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to BRJP on 25.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
	RFD	34.02	<p>DPR of Rs. 35.377 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 19.12.96. After scrutiny of the DPR, clarifications on the proposal sought from BRJP on 15.1.96. Reminder sent on 14.9.99. Recasted DPR of Rs. 30.40 Lakh submitted by BRJP on 25.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while submitting of DPR. Further recasted DPR of Rs. 31.09 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 4.12.03. Commitment to bear O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. One of the major deficiencies is that the town map showing the location of the proposed works has not been attached with the DPR. Also, drawings of RFD works proposed at 2 places are lacking in details. DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 27.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
	CRE	62.94	<p>DPR for Electric Crematoria of Rs. 68.39 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 19.12.96. Information was sought from State Govt. on 15.1.96 regarding (i) maintenance body for the scheme (since the experience indicated</p>

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			<p>that the local bodies have been unsuccessful to maintain such assets created under GAP-I) & (ii) clear methodology of O&M with firm commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. The State Govt. was also suggested, in the letter, that wood based crematoria should be proposed in place of electric crematoria for such small town. BRJP submitted a DPR for Diesel Crematoria of Rs. 64.86 Lakh on 25.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while submitting the DPR. Thereafter, revised DPR of Rs. 62.821 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. One of the major deficiencies is that the index plan of the town showing the location of site for installation of crematoria has not been annexed with DPR. Moreover, the justification for proposing diesel based crematoria in place of electric crematoria (approved by the CCEA) has also not been provided in the DPR. DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 25.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.</p>
	SWM	9.07	<p>The State Govt. forwarded DPR of Rs. 9.70 Lakh on 24.12.96. Commitment to bear O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The State Govt. was intimated on 19.2.02 that the DPR may be dropped since its cost shall increase many times, taking into consideration the provisions to be made as per Gazette Notification dated 25.9.2000 for Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and handling)</p>

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			<p>Rules, 2000. The State Govt. forwarded another DPR of Rs. 27.76 Lakh on 7.4.03. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. Thereafter, the State Govt. forwarded another revised DPR of Rs. 24.27 Lakh on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 25.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the state Government to bear O&M cost.</p>
	LCS	39.13	<p>The State Govt. forwarded DPR of Rs. 40.00 Lakh on 19.12.96. Commitment to bear O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. Information was sought from the State Govt. on 15.1.96 regarding (i) maintenance body for the scheme (since the experience indicated that the local bodies have been unsuccessful to maintain such assets created under GAP-I) & (ii) clear methodology of O&M with firm commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. BRJP submitted recasted DPR of Rs. 40.62 Lakh on 7.4.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost not furnished while submitting the DPR. Fruther revised DPR costing Rs. 39.075 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear the O&M cost of project has still not been furnished, which is mandatory and thus the consequent inability to process the proposal.</p>
	LA	Nil	<p>DPR of Rs. 53.45 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04. Commitment to bear land cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it</p>

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			<p>was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. Even drawings of the proposed land sites are not attached. The DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 25.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear land cost.</p>
3. Mokamah	LA	12.60	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	I&D	79.97	<p>DPR of Rs. 187.57 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 21.12.96. Commitment to bear O&M cost not furnished while forwarding the DPR. after scrutiny of the DPR. Comments on the proposal were conveyed to BRJP on 22.12.97 with request to submit modified DPR. Reminder sent on 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded modified DPR of Rs. 89.44 Lakh on 25.5.98. Clarifications on the proposal made in the DPR were sought from the State Govt. on 9.6.98. The State Govt. forwarded further modified DPR of Rs. 76.16 Lakh on 5.7.00, on which clarifications on this proposal were sought from the State Govt. on 22.8.00. BRJP submitted revised DPR costing Rs. 81.76 Lakh on 18.3.03. During visit of officers of BRJP to NRCD, the deficiencies were pointed out to them and BRJP asked to modify the DPR. BRJP submitted the recasted DPR of Rs. 122.60 Lakh on 27.1.04. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M not furnished while submitting the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to BRJP on 25.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR</p>

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			and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost. State Govt. forwarded the same DPR on 22.4.04, which was returned to them on 13.5.04 for compliance of NRCD letter.
	STP	66.60	The State Govt. forwarded DPR of Rs. 186.46 Lakh on 24.12.96. Various points on the proposal, after discussion with BRJP, were sent to BRJP on 22.12.97 with request to modify the DPR. Reminder sent on 17.3.98. The State Govt. forwarded modified DPR of Rs.81.78 Lakh on 25.5.98. Observations/ comments on the proposal of the DPR were sent to the State Govt. on 15.6.98 to revise the DPR. The State Govt. forwarded revised DPR of Rs. 63.43 lakh on 10.7.2000. Commitment to bear O&M cost not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. Clarifications on the proposal made in the revised DPR were sought from the State Govt. on 23.8.2000. BRJP submitted recasted DPR of Rs. 193.54 lakh on 7.4.03. Thereafter, further recasted DPR of Rs. 197.59 Lakh forwarded by the State Govt. on 7.1.04 commitment to bear O&M cost still not furnished by them while forwarding the DPR. The DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are necessary for processing the proposal. DPR has been returned to the State Govt. on 24.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.
	PP	2.27	DPR yet to be received from the State Govt.
	SWM	15.24	BRJP submitted DPR of Rs. 32.13 Lakh on 25.3.03. Commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M not furnished while submitting the DPR. Meanwhile, DPR was scrutinized and it was found to be lacking in crucial details and requisite information, which are

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			necessary for processing the proposal. The DPR has been returned to BRJP on 24.2.04 with request to submit revised DPR through the State Govt. along with duly filled up prescribed checklists for ensuring inclusion of required information in the DPR and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M cost.

Recommendation

The non-core schemes, such as river front development, setting up of electric crematoria, public toilets etc, are to cater to the peripheral environmental concerns of river pollution, instances have come to notice regarding impairment of assets created at much public expense because of neglect and lack of maintenance, besides delays in their setting up. Even in Delhi, Yamuna River Front is yet to take any shape. The Committee suggest that the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the respective State Governments should take up the non-core schemes also on priority basis, as over a period of time, these schemes are becoming very important, as human excreta, Gaushala, cow drugs, half burnt bodies being thrown into the river system are becoming the major causes of water pollution.

[(Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.9 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Under Phase-I the target of non-core schemes were fully achieved in Uttranchal. Under Phase-II also most of the schemes in the non-core have been completed. It has been intimated by the State Government that the assets thus created are being properly maintained except one electric crematorium at Haridwar, due to lack of funds to pay electricity charges and another improved wood crematoria at Uttarkashi, because of religious believes of the people. The State Government is considering providing required funds to the local bodies for the O/M of electric crematoria at Haridwar.

Under Phase-I the target of non-core schemes were fully achieved in West Bengal Under Phase-II also most of the schemes of River Front Development and Electric Crematoria in the non-core have been completed/are in the advance stage of completion.

The Govt. of Bihar has intimated that all the non-core schemes under GAP-I and almost all the sanctioned schemes under GAP-II have been completed and are functional. The schemes of LCS at Buxar is behind schedule due to stay order of the Hon'ble Patna High Court and shall be completed soon.

Under the Yamuna Action Plan-I, the targets of non-core scheme have been achieved in Delhi. The following non-core works have been undertaken in Delhi.

- * Two number of Electric Crematoria.
- * Total 959 Community Toilet Complexes (CTCs) have been constructed at various locations to improve overall sanitary condition in the slums situated

on the bank of river and at the areas where no sewerage facilities are provided.

The Forests Department of Govt. of NCT of delhi has been allotted about 805 acres of land at Garhi Mandu along the Yamuna River by the Delhi Development Authority for development of greenery. Out of 805 acres of land, the plantation has been carried out in 585 acres till 2003. For the year 2004, it is proposed to carry out the plantation on the 152 acres of land at Garhi Mandu area. Delhi Govt. has informed that studies are being conducted for environmental management rejuvenation of River Yamuna.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee observe that only about 45% of the grossly polluting industrial units installed Effluent Treatment Plants. Out of these, over 18% did not function properly and also did not meet the technical standards. The NRCD also have no mechanism to ensure that the installed Effluent Treatment Plants function properly. The Committee, therefore, recommend that NRCD should be vested with powers to take punitive action against the violators of norms in this regard and defaulting industrial units should either be closed down or allowed to function only after they install ETPs and ensure their proper functioning. The Committee observe that the contribution to the pollution load by various sources was estimated at 75% and 25% each for domestic effluent and industrial wastewater by the CPCB survey in 1984. The CPCB identified a grossly polluting industry as one which handled hazardous substances or industries discharging effluent having BOD load of 100 kg. Per day or more. The Committee find that the CPCB pollution studies assessed the health of the river mainly on the basis of one parameter *i.e.* Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) leading to the assumption that officials tend to under-report levels of toxic waste in the river by focusing more on the parameters of dissolved oxygen and biological oxygen demand that say nothing about heavy metals and other toxins in the river. BOD is a measure of the quality of oxygen depleted by decaying organic matter in the water. The Committee are of the view that while BOD is an important indicator of health of water systems, it is inadequate as an index to total pollution in the river, as it only accounts for decaying organic matter, it also tells us little about the presence and effects of persistent toxins including metals which do not degrade in the environment and are long lived organic poisons. The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that this questionable assessment led to the development of Ganga Action Plan as an action plan that focused mainly on domestic effluents and does precious little to prevent industries from polluting and thus not solving the potential & long term problem of toxic chemical build up in the river. Even the few steps that are being taken to address industrial pollution such as effluent treatment plants rely on end-of-pipe treatment technologies that are not fool proof which at best relocates metals from the liquid medium to the bottom sludge of the effluent treatment plants and at worst escape the treatment and end up polluting the river as in the case of protests of Sadhus in Allahabad on the occasion of 'Makar Sankranti'

(14.1.2003) and 'Mauni Amavashya' (01.2.2003) against coloured discharged of effluents from agro-based industries and distilleries up stream of Kanpur side at Sangam. As a matter of fact, the sludge studied by A Markandey and M.N. Murthy in their research project "Cost Benefit Analysis of Ganga Action Plan" funded by Overseas Development Administration (ODA), UK through the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, had neurotoxic cadmium, chromium and nickel levels above tolerable levels as per prescribed norms for agricultural land application at places like Kanpur, and Varanasi. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry of Environment & Forests should conduct a comprehensive study into the pollution of Ganga and its tributaries by metals, pesticides and organic pollutants to ensure that all potentially polluting industries do not discharge polluted waste into the river. Further, the Committee desire that end-of-pipe pollution control methods as is being currently used in ETPs, should be replaced by pollution elimination-at source technologies. The Committee would also like the Ministry of Environment & Forests to co-ordinate with other Ministries/Departments with a view to mandating zerotoxic discharge into water ways, guaranteeing communities right-to-know and emphasizing clean production and pollution prevention by the industrial units.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.10 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Monitoring and control of Industrial Pollution is carried out through the Central Pollution control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). These agencies are monitoring the grossly polluting industries under the GAP area on regular basis. According to the report as on August 31,2003 of CPCB, out of 306 defaulting industries as on August 1997, 226 industries have provided requisite treatment facilities, 79 units have been closed, one unit is defaulting and facing legal aciton.

National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) through CPCB is taking appropriate measure including issuing of directions to the SPCBs, who are responsible for implementation of pollution control regulations under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & EPA 1986. The CPCB issues directions to the SPCBs and the defaulting industries.

The criteria for grossly polluting industries identified are based on two criteria *i.e.* (i) handling of hazardous waste/chemical; (ii) BOD load of 100 kg per day or more. These criteria will take care of organic as well as toxic pollution, as toxic wastes come under hazardous category.

Regarding monitoring of toxic substances like metals and pesticides, it is submitted that monitoring of such substances is an expensive exercise and requires sophisticated laboratory facilities and skilled man-power. MOEF carried out monitoring of toxic pollution through ITRC for 5 years at 27 locations in the Ganga River during 1985-90 and concluded taht toxic pollutants are not significant in the river. Such measurements on routine basis cost lot of effort and money without

adding much to water quality information. Thus, it was decided to focus water quality monitoring only on organic and microbial pollution. However, CPCB has once again initiated measurement of toxic pollutions in the river.

Regarding technologies being adopted for industrial pollution, it is true that the toxic pollutants removed through treatment are transferred to sludge. Therefore, the sludge has to be disposed off in a manner that it does not pollute the river. Necessary measures are taken through UP PCB to ensure proper disposal of sludge. The levels of toxic metals as reported (by A Markandey and M.N. Murthey) at Kanpur and Varanasi are being further studied by CPCB.

Regarding, a comprehensive study on pollution of Ganga and its tributaries with respect to metals and pesticides, CPCB has already initiated measurements of toxic pollutants in the Ganga River and its tributaries. The MOEF through its Pollution Abatement Policy 1992 has been emphasizing on preventive measures. Recently, through an extensive discussion with industrial associations, CPCB has finalized an agreement on time targeted action plan for preventive and control measures with respect to 17 categories of highly polluting industries under Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection (CREP). The CREP Programme mentioned above was finalized in collaboration with other Ministries/Departments. For communities right to know information, MOEF has initiated many activities through NGO, web-sites, meetings, discussions, seminars, symposiums and other mass awareness programmes.

The objective of Ganga Action Plan was to prevent the pollution of the river from the sewage discharging through various drains into the river. Since the 75% contribution of pollution is due to discharge of organic matter from the domestic sewage, DO and BOD which are the pollution indicating parameters are measured along with bacterial quality of river to find the status of health of the river. In contrast to this, presence of heavy metals in river water and sediments is indicative of pollution from industrial sources, control of which is carried out through legal provisions under the Action Plan. The monitoring of heavy metals under WQM, however, is carried out once a year during critical period of summer to assess the status of the river.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee observe that for such a mass oriented programme as Ganga Action Plan, a crucial aspect like public participation which could have been a deciding factor in the successful implementation GAP has not been given adequate attention despite this being mentioned from the very sitting of NRCA (then CGA). From the Ministry's submissions and their first hand experience during study visits to different sites of Ganga Action Plan, the Committee are of the firm opinion that at present the general people at large are either ignorant of or totally alienated from objectives of Ganga Action Plan thereby creating a gulf between public and

the schemes/projects. This ignorance also prevents them from playing an active role in assisting regulatory authorities in the implementation of GAP schemes, As is evident from the submission of States like Bihar that they have been waiting NRCD's guidelines for launching public awareness campaigns, the Committee observed that even after 18 years of its operation, Ministry of Environment & forests have failed to come out with a concrete vision plan to make people aware of the consequences of living in a hazardous polluted river eco-system. The Committee, in order to ensure effective public participation in GAP, urge the Ministry of Environment and Forests to make energetic mass awareness efforts to establish a pattern of co-operative relationship between the Government, NGOs, VOs and associations. Further the Committee observe that the Ganga and its bigger tributaries like Yamuna possess moer than enough scope for contributing a major chunk towards self-financing their action plans by way of fisheries, water sports, recreational zones, amusement park, pilgrimage etc. on its river line are but what requires is a co-ordinated vision plan amongst such Ministries as the Ministry of Environment & Forests, the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Water Resources etc. The Committee therefore would like the NRCA to look into the feasibility of such a project, and if necessary, open such schemes to private sector. The Committee therefore would like the NRCA to look into the feasibility of such a project, and if necessary, open such schemes to private sector. The Committee also emphasize the need for devising a methodology wherein setting up and holding of regular meetings, of Citizen Monitoring Committees in all the cities covered under the Ganga Action Plan becomes a permanent feature in the implementation of GAP.

[S. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.11 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Public Awareness & Public Participation have been made part of the River and Lake Conservation Plans in the X Plan. The Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for river and lake cleaning works are now conceived & formulated by the State Governments in close consultation with the stake holding communities following the approach of participatory appraisal. The States have been advised through the guidelines for preparation of DPRs to launch awareness campaigns through a programme of volunteers called National Green Volunterrs. The State Governments are taking steps in this regard by involving local bodies, social organizations and NGOs.

The NRCD has endeavoured to bring about awareness by participating in the India International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan by setting up pavilions at three occasions. Exhibitions have been set up at Teen Murti Bhavan and Ashok Hotel apart from setting up exhibition stalls in the Kumbh Mela and Magh Mela at Allahabad regularly till the closure of the Directorate Regional Office at Allahabad w.e.f. 12.12.2001. In the past programmes have been telecast on the Door Darshan also, Fifty nine episodes of a popular programme named 'Kinare Kinare' were broadcast on the FM Radio Delhi during the period 2001-2003. Printing of handbills, pamphlets and brochures on the programmes of the NRCD has also been done.

The NRCD has assisted and given grants to various NGOs and Voluntary Organizations for programmes as indicated below of creating public awareness.

- * Organization of padyatras/green rallies using tableaux etc.
- * Display of banners by students at prominent places.
- * Holding street plays.
- * Screening of documentary films on awareness followed by feature films at community level.
- * Airing of aquickies and messages on television and radio at prime hours.
- * Organization of cultural programme at community/city level involving famous stars.
- * Installation of hoardings at prominent locations.
- * Exhibitions
- * Publication and dissemination of reference material.
- * Training of watch dog groups/beneficiary groups.
- * Shramdaan.

An amount of Rs. 6.25 crores (including the advertisements in the news papers regarding achievements of the Ministry in February, 2004) has been spent towards publicity and propoganda during the period 1990-91 to 2003-2004 through State Governments Local bodies, NGOs Societies and VOs.

Besides the above and with a view to involving people from different walks of life for generating awareness and giving a sense of belonging to the people it was decided in 1995 to constitute Citizens Monitoring Committees comprising social workers, representatives of implementaing agencies and academicians for each town where works of pollution abatement of rivers have been initiated or would be initiated. The Constitution of the Citizen's Monitoring Committees is as follows:—

- (a) Mayor/President of Municipality—Chairman.
- (b) Colletor/SDM—Convenor.
- (c) 2 Prominent citizens (to be nominated by State Government).
- (d) 2 NGOs working in the area (to be nominated by State Government).
- (e) 2 Technical experts (Professors from IITs/Colleges or other academicians/experts—to be nominated by State Govt.)
- (f) 1 Representative of State Pollution Control Board.
- (g) 1 Representative of National River Conservation Directorate/Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (h) Executive Engineer of nodal agency — Member Secretary

The functions of the Citizens' Monitoring Committee are as follows:-

- * Promote awareness of problem of pollution of rivers and of the importance of clean rivers for aquatic life, human health and recreation;
- * Disseminate information about the measures/initiatives taken towards the cleaning of rivers and peoples' role in keeping the rivers free from pollution;
- * Enhance motivation and performance level of those engaged in the river pollution abatement programmes;
- * Promote awareness of related issues such as siltation of rivers, soil erosion, afforestation, industrial pollution and conservation of water resources etc.;
- * Secure public cooperation and participation on the implementation of the programme;
- * Ensure optimum utilization of assets created under the programme such as crematoria, community toilets, river front facilities etc.;
- * Extend help for promoting measures required for proper operation and maintenance of the facilities created under the programme;
- * Help the local bodies/State Governments popularize the use of sludge as manure, of treated effluents for land application and of sludge/effluents for biogas generation;
- * Provide requisite inputs to the concerned agencies in formulating appropriate strategies to enhance the overall efficiency of the schemes; and
- * To Monitor the progress of execution and timely completion of facilities and its proper operation and maintenance thereafter.

The constitution setting up the Citizens Monitoring Committees provides for holding of meetings of the committees at least once every month.

The feasibility of opening schemes for self financing the action plans by way of fisheries, water sports, recreational zones, amusement parks, pilgrimage etc. on the river lines in coordination with the Ministries of Water Resources, Ministry of Tourism etc. will be placed in the next meeting of the National River Conservation Authority (NRCA) to be presided by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for appropriate policy directions.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004/NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

While going through the operational profile of implementation of core schemes of GAP-II upto March 2000, the Committee find that in Uttar Pradesh out of the targeted sewage treatment of 1098.14 mld, only 13.00 mld could be achieved. In West Bengal out of 4 schemes of interception and diversion of sewer lines, not a single scheme has been implemented and against an STP target of 373.63 mld, there is no progress at all. As far as Bihar is concerned, not a single scheme for interception and diversion of

sewer lines was proposed and against the target of 92.18 mld of sewage treatment, the achievement shown was nil. In Haryana, out of 19 schemes of interception and diversion of sewer lines, only 9 schemes have been completed and out of 12 schemes of Sewage Treatment Plant only 8 were completed. The Committee after observing delays in completion of core-schemes, feel that river water pollution is not being taken seriously by the respective State Government and their implementing agencies. The Government spend huge amount of money on the treatment of water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases caused by polluted water, but water pollution is not taken seriously by various States and their implementing agencies which at times, causes lot of human loss. The Committee, therefore, recommend, that the State Governments and their implementing agencies should recognize the importance and seriousness of various schemes being implemented under GAP and complete them in a time frame for the benefit of the people at large.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.13 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

There was a general delay in starting of execution of works under GAP-II due to various factors like decision of sharing of cost of works on 50:50 basis between Central and State Governments, delay in land acquisition for works due to court cases, etc. However, this issue has been taken up with all the State Governments and they have been requested to expedite the completion of works. The State wise current position is explained below.

The issue of expeditious implementation of GAP Phase-II schemes is being constantly and rigorously pursued with the UP State Government by the Ministry at all levels. Under GAP Phase-II in UP, 181 out of 228 sanctioned schemes (core and non-core schemes) have been completed and treatment capacity of 443.25 mld has been created so far. In addition, works for creating treatment capacity of 462.07 mld are in various stages of implementation.

The West Bengal State Government had initially identified 191 schemes of I&D, STP and non-core sector. However, due to the sever erosion problem the State Government has decided to drop 17 schemes of core and non-core in the towns of Dhulian, Jangipur and Chakda. The latest position of scheme under GAP - II is given below:

Total number of schemes (revised)	174
DPRs sanctioned	117

The State Government has recently submitted the pending DPRs of core and non-core which are being processed. Out of these 13 DPRs are such where the cost of schemes is much above the cost earlier approved by the CCEA. The possibility to meet this excess cost from the intra/inter town saving is under examination. It may be mentioned that so far 52 schemes of I&D and STP to treat 77.48 mld of sewage have been sanctioned. Many of the schemes are in the advance stage of completion.

Against the target of treating 29.72 mld domestic sewage under GAP-II, Uttaranchal State Government has intimated that 0.18 mld has been achieved. The works of 8 mld and 2.44 mld STPs at Ranipur and Uttarkashi are in progress. For the rest 19.10 mld STPs the cost schemes as per the DPR submitted by the Uttaranchal Government is much above the CCEA's approved cost. State Government has requested to sanction these schemes from the inter town savings, which is under consideration. Against the allocation of Rs. 3848.00 lakh so far 30 schemes costing about Rs. 2028.00 lakhs have been sanctioned. So far State Government has been released about Rs. 1076.00 lakhs. Almost all that amount released has been utilized by the implementing Agency.

In case of Haryana, 15 out of 19 schemes of interception and diversion of sewer lines and all the 12 schemes of Sewage Treatment Plant have been completed.

In case of Bihar, DPRs of 12 core schemes of interception & diversion and sewage treatment under GAP-II, submitted by the BRJP, lacked in important details and requisite information and also commitment of the State Government to bear O&M cost, not furnished therewith, which are necessary. This proves as a handicap to process the DPRs for necessary sanction. These DPRs have been sent back to the State to rectify them.

With a view to streamline consideration of the DPRs received in the NRCD for NRCP works from the various State Govts., the NRCD has approved check lists for DPRs, to facilitate proper preparation of the DPRs by the implementing agencies and to ensure that all important details and pre-requisite information is furnished by the proponent at the time of submission of DPRs. These checklists have been prepared to serve as a guidance to ensure the availability of all requisite information for purpose of processing of the DPRs.

Accordingly, these checklists have been provided to the BRJP on 9.2.2004 and they have been requested to submit new/recasted DPRs to the NRCD through the State Government in future along with duly filled up checklists and commitment of the State Government to bear O&M cost.

The State Government has also been requested that it should be ensured to send the DPRs of the core schemes viz, I&D and STP of a town along with that of land acquisition so that these are sanctioned all together by the NRCD to avoid mismatch.

The status of the recasted DPRs yet to be submitted by the State Government has been shown in the *Annexure-I*.

The NRCD is constantly pursuing the matter with the State Government for expeditious completion of works under GAP-II for the benefit of the people at large.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No 11012/1/2004 - NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to observe that GAP even after more than 18 years of its operation, is still in its trial and error exercise which invariably suggest that the

GAP has been formulated without proper assessment of actual ground realities. Not only the parameters have not been fixed for selection of towns under GAP-II, the estimation of sewage generated along the towns has also been done based on an inaccurate methodology leading to many cases of overloading and under loading of sewages in the STPs. Even the estimations that might have been accurate at the time of initiating the scheme run the risk of being obsolete in view of time overruns which in some cases stretches up to ten years as in the case of East Zone STP, Patna and Munger STP in Bihar. Taking note of this fact, the Committee further express their concern over designing of schemes under GAP especially the reported overflowing of sewers in Bihar which according to State Government are not due to defective designing as the Audit has pointed out, but due to Ministry of Environment & Forests' instructions to prepare the DPRs considering 5 years only. The Committee feel that such time overruns would ultimately render the STPs created under the scheme incapable of containing the sewages when they are operationalised in view of growth in population and town structure. The Committee also express their displeasure over the submission of the Ministry of Environment & Forests that GAP compares favourably in comparison with Rhine, Thames and Danube Action Plans. The Committee view that the Ministry, instead of evolving a methodology for realistic planning of schemes and proper utilization of funds have let themselves to set complacency in their implementation of GAP.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.16 of 62 nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Ganga Action Plan was formulated based on the ground realities and survey conducted by CPCB. Only those towns with population of one lakh and above were selected. First survey to ascertain the towns polluting rivers was conducted in 1984. The last survey was conducted in 1993. Though considerable delay has taken place in completion of pollution abatement works as the programme was new to its kind. The personnel involved at Policy and implementing stage took time to understand the problems. The untreated sewage of GAP-I is being taken up in GAP-II and in NRCP. The State Government have been advised to take up works for treatment of additional sewage (if any) from their resources after the completion of ongoing GAP-II and NRCP works. The Ministry in future proposes to take a holistic approach of pollution abatement to improve the water quality of rivers and lakes. This approach will include Sewerage System (Conveyance and its Disposal), Municipal Solid Waste (Collection and Disposal), Low Cost Sanitation, Crematoria, Other non-point sources of pollution and River Front Developments.

The time overrun in case of implementation of schemes of Bihar under GAP-I namely; STP Eastern Zone, Patan and STP, Munger is due to contractual disputes, litigation etc. These schemes are to be completed by December, 2004. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has amended the guidelines for preparation of DPRs, wherein design period for STP has been increased to 10 years.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004- NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee deplore the actions of the Ministry and participating State Governments for having failed to work in tandem as per the mutual agreement. While the State Governments, especially Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal could not provide matching share for schemes, prominent being failure to acquire land, non-supply of power etc.the Ministry of Environment & Forests have no effective mechanism to deal with such situations putting a serious challenge to the success of the plan. In the absence of an effective control mechanism, the States took full advantage to divert and misutilise funds. Thus, by solely relying on the goodwill of the States and their implementing agencies, the Ministry have treated on an uncertain path for guaranteed failure. Putting on hold funds released to the States like Bihar for GAP-II, in view of State Government's lackadaisical attitude, even though a necessity is a remedy worse than disease so far as achieving the targets of GAP is concerned. During their study visits, the Committee noticed that the implementing agencies were more concerned in the creation of the pumping stations and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) rather than ensuring optimum utilization of these assets. The Committee observe that such a mammoth scheme like GAP should have been on the basis of a system that would leave no room for the States take an un-cooperative stance. As per the current scheme, the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment and Forests seems to have ended at approving DPRs, sanctioning money and issuing direction with non follow-up action being taken. The Committee thereby urge the Ministry to devise a suitable mechanism whereby States become a willing partner in the implementation of the scheme.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.17 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

West Bengal Government has intimated that all efforts are being made to implement the GAP Projects sincerely. No funds are diverted. All cooperation is being given by the State for implementing the programme. Assets created under GAP are being utilized optimally.

The year-wise expenditure on O/M of assets created under GAP for the last 5 years is given below:

(Rupees in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Fund Received	Expenditure incurred
(i)	1998-1999	5.00	5.52
(ii)	1999-2000	5.00	5.76
(iii)	2000-2001	6.00	6.93
(iv)	2001-2002	6.30	7.19
(v)	2002-2003	1.64	7.49

Excess expenditure has been incurred from other available funds. According to the State Government there is no financial constrain in implementation of GAP schemes.

To sort out the inter departmental issues, so as to take care of delays in land acquisition, the State Government was advised to set up an institutional frame work under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister/Minister-in-charge. Recently to expedite the acquisition of land for the various schemes the State Government has delegated the power for land acquisition to local District Magistrate.

Uttaranchal Government have intimated that all efforts being made to implement the GAP Projects sincerely. No funds are diverted. All cooperation is being given by the State for implementing the programme. Assets created under GAP are being utilized optimally.

The Government of Bihar has intimated that 5 Nos. of following STPs under GAP I have been functional and operating regularly since 2000:

- (1) STP, Saidpur
- (2) STP, Pahari
- (3) STP, Beur
- (4) STP, Chapra
- (5) STP, Bhagalpur

They have also intimated that inspite of financing crunch of the State Government, fund to the tune of Rs. 270 lakh for operation and maintenance of these assets is being regularly released by the State Government since last two years. All STPs have been made functional. Additional fund of Rs. 199 Lakh also has been sanctioned and released by the State Government for the special repairs of the different components of projects of STPs/I&Ds created under GAP I to the Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad. These special repair works are in progress and are to be completed by October 2004. After completion of these works, all projects of STPs/ I&Ds will be functional to their full capacity.

The State Government has also mentioned that fund had been made available to the BRJP in the year 2003-2004 for completion of 2 Nos. of incomplete STPs viz., (i) STP, Karmali Chak (East Zone), Patna and (ii) STP, Munger. Remaining work of the both incomplete schemes have been started and are in progress, which are to be completed by August 2004.

Uttaranchal Government have intimated that all efforts are being made to implement the GAP Projects sincerely. No funds are diverted. All cooperation is being given by the State for implementing the programme. Assests created under GAP are being utilized optimally.

In order to ensure that the State Governments become a willing partner to ensure smooth operation & maintenance of assests created under river action plans, it is proposed to enter into an agreement (MOU) between the Central and State Govts.

where the responsibilities of both the agencies is clearly demarcated and they are made accountable for any lapses.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee, during their study visit found that not only the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Hardwar was not functioning properly, the condition of the pumping stations at Aryanagar, Kankhal and Jagjitpur was also far from satisfactory. Pollutants like plastic bags & night solid was seen freely floating in the nalas, which was being directly discharged into the River. The Committee express serious concern over the plastic waste being thrown into nalas thereby choking sewer lines as well as enormous quantities of cow dung swept out into the river from various Gaushalas situated on the banks of the river. Having, thus, noticed the total absence of coordination among multiple State and local agencies responsible for implementing the GAP, the Committee observe that there is hardly any mechanism to monitor effectively the implementation of GAP works. During their study visit, the Committee were informed that before GAP works were undertaken, the City's functioning sewerage system was the one introduced in the year 1936 with 72 km long sewer lines and 5 pumping stations to divert part of the sewage polluting river Ganga. The Committee also observe that in Rishikesh, no sewage treatment facility was available earlier at Laxman Jhula, Swarga-Ashram and Muni-ki-Reti. The Committee are also informed that under GAP Phase-I, 11 drains were intercepted and diverted in Hardwar and around, 18 drains were intercepted and diverted in Hardwar and around, 18 drains were diverted in Rishikesh to the 3 STPs constructed under GAP-I having total capacity of 24.33 mld (million liter per day). The Committee are, however, informed that due to limited resources, the works under GAP-I could only partially abate the pollution of river Ganga. The Committee further observe that the old sewage system of Hardwar was incapable of handling the total sewage discharge of the city as the population of the city had increased manifold since 1938. The Committee are of clear and unmistakable impression that the civic authorities were unable to treat the total sewage discharge of the two cities as Hardwar-Rishikesh, being cities of prime religious significance, had lakhs of pilgrims coming from all over the country. Further, the Committee desire that the Ganga Pollution Control Unit should have proper coordination with the Irrigation Department to enable and to encourage the farmers of that area to make good the use of the treated sewage water for irrigation purposes and fertilizing the agricultural fields with the treated solid waste as manure. The Committee are of the view that such a usage, would in due course, not only provide revenue to the Government but would also help the farmers to get manure-rich water for cultivation.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.20 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Uttaranchal Government have intimated that the functioning of STPs at Jagjitpur, Haridwar and Lakarghat Rishikesh, is satisfactory except that these STPs are over

loaded and need up-gradation. The Ministry is well aware that the sewerage system and sewage treatment facilities at Haridwar-Rishikesh are very old and need up-gradation. In this regard keeping in mind the religious importance of the place the State Government have been advised to submit the proposals for I&D and STP works along with 30% commitment for cost sharing, so as to achieve zero discharge of domestic effluent at Haridwar-Rishikesh.

State Government has informed that it is also taking steps to introduce user's charges for water supply and sewerage system to bear the partial cost of Ganga River Action Plan. Revenue is being earned by rearing fish, selling manure and treated sewage for irrigation purpose. Suggestions of accepting donations from willing contributors are also under consideration of the State Government.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

Taking note of the fact that the old sewer line was unable to take the sewage load of 1 lakh 18 thousand population (which becomes manifold during Kumbh season), the Committee suggest that its capacity should be enhanced and new sewer lines be laid. The Committee would also like to take proactive initiatives to ensure that Citizens' Monitoring Committees' should be set up and made to meet regularly at these places so that the general public could also be involved in abating further pollution of the river.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.21 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It has been informed by the Uttaranchal Government that an estimate is being prepared to enhance the capacity of sewerage system of the town. Further, the State Government has intimated that Citizen Monitoring Committees are already functioning in the various towns and all out efforts are being made to hold meetings at regular intervals.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

On Haridwar-Rishikesh road stretch, big hoardings should be put up drawing the attention of the pilgrims and local population to keep the Holy Ganga clean. Some kind of warnings should be written down on these hoardings and other prominent places that violators would be punished with fine if they pollute the river-waters. Public participation will be an asset for this purpose. Local bodies, social organizations and non-governmental organizations should also be involved in this publicity campaign.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.22 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It has been informed by the State Government that big hoardings have been put at suitable places on the Haridwar-Rishikesh road urging the pilgrims and local population to keep the Holy Ganga clean. In Uttaranchal one scheme of Public Participation and Awareness (PPA) has been sanctioned for the four towns of Uttarkashi, Dev Paryag, Rudraprayag and Srinagar. The schemes of PPA includes components such as Sharamdan, Padyatra, Awareness and Training Camps, Exhibitions and Quiz Programmes on Ganga Pollution for school children. All these components would be carried with the help of local bodies, social organizations and non-governmental organizations by the State Government.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are, however, concerned to note that no appreciable vigil was taken by the PHD (Public Health Division) in one case of Interception and Diversion Scheme at Gurgaon canal wherein laying of RCC (Reinforced cement concrete) pipe sewer in place of brick circular sewer due to failure to obtain permission for cutting trees from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Haryana in times cost on extra expenditure of Rs. 1.99 crore that was much higher than the originally envisaged cost for brick circular sewer. The Ministry's reply of August 1999 to audit justified Haryana's action to time constraint arising out of the Court orders. According to Audit, this should be viewed in the light of the facts that there were avoidable delays prior to the Court orders because of which the work could not be completed as contemplated and in time at the first place.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.25 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

This para relates to Faridabad town. The Govt. of Haryana, for future guidance has noted the recommendations of the Committee.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

In yet another case, the Committee are concerned to note that Faridabad (Zone II) STP processed only 15 to 20 MLD Sewage against the installed capacity of 45 MLD as of December 1999 as the anticipated quantity of sewage from areas developed by the HUDA (Housing and Urban Development Authority) did not reach the STP. The Committee deplore the action of Housing and Urban Development Authority, Haryana and the Municipal Corporation, Faridabad for not completing ancillary works meant for transporting the sewage which has still not been completed in spite of repeated efforts by holding meetings at the level of Financial Commissioner, Public Health on 19.3.1999, 17.9.1999, 5.7.2003, 28.11.2000, 13.4.2001 and 15.7.2002. The Committee are concerned to note that

Haryana Government had not got the defective mechanical screen bars of 30 MLD MPS at Sonapat and in the STP at 10.58 crore respectively repaired or replaced as of March 2000, thereby impairing the functioning of the MPS and the STP even after the detection of the defects in September 1998. Because of this defect, bulk material and polythenes got easily passed into pumping stations choking the pumps and the STP. The Committee are informed that the agency attended to the defects by deputing their staff many times but the screen did not work up to the mark. Going by this trend, the Committee are doubtful of the selection of contractors for schemes implemented in the State.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.27 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The matter is being pursued by Govt. of Haryana with HUDA and Municipal Commissioner, Faridabad to ensure that the installed capacity is fully utilized. The selection of contractors was done (by PHD) meticulously by pre-qualifying them. However, the mechanical screens developed some defects, which were got rectified from the Agencies.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

During their study visit the Committee had noticed that in spite of the existence of Ghasiyar Mandi and Wazirganj Sewage Pumping Stations under the Gomti Action Plan (GoAP) in Lucknow, which comes under Phase-II of Ganga Action Plan, the pollution level in the river further increased due to direct discharge of sewage in the river from the partial sewerage system of the city. The GoAP was approved in the year 1993 for three towns, namely, Lucknow, Sultanpur and Jaunpur situated along the banks of river Gomti. The main cause of pollution of river Gomti at Lucknow, was untreated sewage of 26 drains discharged directly into the river Gomti that flow right in the heart of Lucknow. The Committee had learnt that presently the quantity of sewage effluents being discharged in the river was about 345 mld. The Gomti Action Plan was started with British assistance in the year 1995, during the first phase of the plan, diversion of one nala, cleaning of a few trunk sewers along with some survey had nala improvement works at the cost of Rs. 7 crores was done and a Master Plan for the sewage treatment & disposal of solid waste management was prepared. After the British Assistance was withdrawn in the year 1997, the project was converted into a 100% Centrally funded scheme. Pollution abatement works under Gomti Action Phase-I amounting to Rs. 26.94 crore were under different stages of implementation which included diversion of sewage of five nalas and construction of a 42 mld capacity Sewage Treatment Plant at Daulatganj. After completion of Phase-I works, about 10% of the total pollution reaching the river would be prevented. The Committee noticed that alongwith the wastewater flow to the STP during peak hours touched 105 mld, the STP at Daulatganj could only treat sewage up to 42 mld. The Committee express serious concern over the submission of MD, UPJN that the STP plant could however tackle the peak flow of 105 mld,

which lasts for a few hours every day which nevertheless is a mammoth task for an STP installed to treat sewage up to 42 mld. For remaining works of pollution control in the Lucknow City, as the Committee were informed, a comprehensive project report for Phase-II of GoAP for creating additional treatment capacity of 375 mld was awaiting approval from the Government of India which was reported to have been sanctioned only on 30.06.2003. The Committee, express serious concern over the fact that the Ministry of Environment & Forests have inordinately delayed a project that would mitigate the sufferings of the people affected by the one of the worst polluted river. The Committee also observe that as the supply of power in the STPs was generally disrupted for around 2½ hours and due to non-availability of back up generator sets, the untreated sewage water was going straight into the river during those hours. The Committee therefore urge Ministry of Environment & Forests to prevail upon Uttar Pradesh Government and their implementing agency, UPJN to take up concrete and alternative measures to ensure adequate power supply to the STPs and Ecs and other assets created under GAP.

[Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.29 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Against the present approved cost of Rs. 47.75 crore for Gomti Action Plan (GoAP) Phase-I at Lucknow, 18 schemes amounting to Rs. 47.55 crore have been sanctioned and 15 schemes have been completed till date. This includes 9 schemes taken up with financial assistance from DFID (Department for International Development), UK at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 6.97 crore, which were completed by March, 1999. In addition to the above, 9 schemes have been taken up from budgetary resources at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 40.58 crore. Till date, 6 schemes (including the 42 mld capacity Daulatganj STP) have been completed and the balance 3 are in various stages of implementation. The total expenditure incurred till 30.4.2004 on all the sanctioned schemes of GoAP Phase-I at Lucknow is Rs. 32.49 crore.

The UP State Govt. has informed that the Daulatganj STP at Lucknow was designed for average flow as per the guidelines of CPHEEO Manual of Government of India. It can treat 42 mld wastewater (average flow). It also has the capacity of its units to handle the peak flow of 105 mld during peak hours. The sizes of units are designed in such a manner that it can allow to pass and treat through it, 105 mld during peak hours. The UP State Govt. has also informed that the plant is performing satisfactorily and its results as per the test reports of ITRC, Lucknow are enclosed as *Annexure-II*.

Under the 1st Phase of GoAP, interception and diversion of 6 nalas and treatment of 42 mld of sewage is envisaged. To tackle the balance inflow of sewage generated in Lucknow into the river Gomti, the 2nd phase of GoAP has been approved by the Government of India. Advance copy of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the 2nd phase of GoAP were received in the Ministry from UP State Govt. in October, 2002 while the project proposal was formally received from the UP Government in January, 2003 for an amount of Rs. 291.58 crore. Based on detailed discussions with the UP State Govt. officials and after internal appraisal within the Ministry, the project was first put up to the EFC and then the CCEA for approval. The project was approved by the Govt. for Rs. 263.26 crore. Subsequently, another detailed review of the DPRs for

the project was carried out on the basis of which the financial sanction was issued for Rs. 263.04 crore on 30.6.2003.

Under the 2nd phase of GoAP, all the remaining 20 nalas of Lucknow which pollute the river Gomti will be intercepted, diverted and ultimately treated at 370 mld STP at Kakraha village. At the STP, 345 mld of sewage will be treated by Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) technology and 25 mld by Waste stabilization pond system. In addition, the capacity of the Daulatganj STP will also be augmented by 5 mld (from 42 mld to 47 mld). The target date of completion of the Phase-II works for Lucknow town is March, 2007.

As per information received from UP State Govt., the tenders for various components of the 2nd phase of GoAP have been invited, received and processing is being done. Work of interception and diversion of few nalas is likely to start soon. The tender for STP at Kakraha is also in processing stage. In the mean time, the land for 2nd phase works is under acquisition.

The DPR for construction of diesel generator (DG) Set rooms and installation of DG Sets at pumping stations constructed on the all the 5 nalas under GoAP Phase-I stands approved for Rs. 148.86 lakhs. The construction of DG Set rooms and installation of DG Sets at all the 5 pumping stations is under progress by UP State Govt. The DG sets have already been installed by UP State Govt. at the 42 mld Daulatganj STP for alternative power supply during the break down in electric supply. DG sets have also been proposed at all the GoAP Phase-II works in Lucknow in order to overcome the power failure problems.

The issue of providing continuous and adequate power supply to STPs, pumping stations, electric crematoria and other assets created under Ganga Action Plan, including GoAP, is being constantly and rigorously pursued with the State Govt. by the Ministry at all levels.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

ANNEXURE II

INDUSTRIAL TOXICOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE
 MAHATMA GANDHI MARG, POST BOX NO. 80
 LUCKNOW-226 001 (U.P.) INDIA

SEWAGE/INDUSTRIAL WASTE ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Sample Registry No. : TS-360 (I & II)
2. Nature of Sample & Location : STP Sample, Inlet (I) & Outlet (II) Date: August 25, 2004
3. Sample Collected by : ITRC Staff
4. Sample Collected on : July 23 & 24, 2003
5. Methods of Analysis : As per APHA/AWWA; 20th Ed. (1998)

Sl. No.	Parameters/Tests	Result	
		I	II
A — Physico-Chemical			
1.	Suspended Solids (Gravimetric) mg/l	286.0	28.0
2.	BOD (Winkler's method) mg/l	190.0	25.0
B — MPN/100 ml			
1.	Confirmative MPN/100 ml	7000000	900

Telephone EPABX Main Campus 220107, 220207, 214118, 227586, 213786, 216191, 227332 Fax No. 0522-228227, 228471 Telephone Gheru Campus: 436144, 436077 Fax: 436151

Telegram "INTOXI" E-mail: itrc@sancharnet.in

NS — Not Specified.

1. The report pertains to the sample tested only.
2. This report shall not be used or produced in fragments.
3. This report shall not be used for any other purpose than declared by the sponsor.

Name, Designation & Signature of the Analyst with Date

Sd/-
 (Dr. Kunwar P. Singh)
 Scientist & Head
 Water & Wastewater Lab.

INDUSTRIAL TOXICOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE
 MAHATMA GANDHI MARG, POST BOX NO. 80
 LUCKNOW-226 001 (U.P.) INDIA

SEWAGE/INDUSTRIAL WASTE ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Sample Registry No. : TS-363 (I & II)
2. Nature of Sample & Location : STP Sample Inlet (I) & Outlet (II) Date: August 25, 2004
3. Sample Collected by : ITRC Staff
4. Sample Collected on : Aug 4 & 5, 2003
5. Methods of Analysis : As per APHA/AWWA; 20th Ed. (1998)

Sl. No.	Parameters/Tests	Result	
		I	II
A — Physico-Chemical			
1.	Suspended Solids (Gravimetric) mg/l	276.0	26.0
2.	BOD (Winkler's method) mg/l	180.0	22.5
B — MPN/100 ml			
3.	Confirmative MPN/100 ml	24,00000000	700

Telephone EPABX Main Campus 220107, 220207, 214118, 227586, 213786, 216191, 227332 Fax No. 0522-228227, 228471 Telephone Gheru Campus: 436144, 436077 Fax: 436151

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Name, Designation & Signature of the Analyst with Date

Sd/-

(Dr. Kunwar P. Singh)

Scientist & Head

Water & Wastewater Lab.

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 MAHATMA GANDHI MARG, POST BOX NO. 80
 LUCKNOW-226 001 (U.P.) INDIA

SEWAGE/INDUSTRIAL WASTE ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Sample Registry No. : TS-391 (A & B)
2. Nature of Sample : Effluent STP Sample Date: Dec. 19, 2003
3. Sample Collected by : ITRC Staff
4. Sample Collected on : Nov. 29 & 30, 2003
5. Methods of Analysis : As per APHA/AWWA; 20th Ed. (1998)

Sl. No.	Parameters/Tests	Result		
		A Inlet	B Outlet	Standard Uncertainty \pm
A — Physico-Chemical				
1.	Suspended Solids (Gravimetric)mg/l		162.0	26.0 —
2.	BOD (Winkler's method) mg/l		130.0	21.0 1.239
B — MPN/100 ml				
3.	Confirmative MPN/100 ml		900000000	110 —

NS — Not Specified.

1. The report pertains to the sample tested only.
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Name, Designation & Signature of the Analyst with Date

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(Dr. Kunwar P. Singh)

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SEWAGE/INDUSTRIAL WASTE ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Sample Registry No. : TS-404 (I & II)
2. Nature of Sample : Effluent STP Sample Date: Feb. 19, 2004
3. Sample Collected by : ITRC Staff
4. Sample Collected on : Jan. 28 & 29, 2004
5. Methods of Analysis : As per APHA/AWWA; 20th Ed. (1998)

Sl. No.	Parameters/Tests	Result		
		I Inlet	II Outlet	Standard Uncertainty ±
A — Physico-Chemical				
1.	Suspended Solids (Gravimetric) mg/l	138.0	28.0	—
2.	BOD (Winkler's method) mg/l	125.0	24.0	1.232
3.	Phosphate as P (Stannous Chloride)mg/l	3.79	1.66	0.00
4.	Total Nitrogen (Kjeldahl) mg/l	25.76	15.68	0.00
B — MPN/100 ml				
5.	Confirmative MPN/100 ml	500000000	270	—

NS — Not Specified.

1. The report pertains to the sample tested only.
2. This report shall not be used or produced in fragments.
3. This report shall not be used for any other purpose than declared by the sponsor.

Name, Designation & Signature of the Analyst with Date

Sd/-
(Dr. Kunwar P. Singh)
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227332 Fax No. 0522-228227, 228471 Telephone Gheru Campus: 436144, 436077 Fax:
436151

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Recommendation

The Committee express their serious concern over the amount of caustic soda flowing directly into the river Gomati from 30 dhobi ghats along the river in Lucknow and directed that the matter should be studied seriously to prevent flowing of chemical pollution into the river. The Committee do not agree with the submission of the Uttar Pradesh Government that caustic soda affects the pH value of river water which do not have direct effect on pollution load especially when the very purpose of GAP is to maintain the Ganga waters at bathing class the pH value of which must be in between 6.5 to 8.5. The Committee would therefore urge the Ministry of Environment & Forests to take up this issue with the implementing agencies concerned and devise appropriate measures to contain effluents being discharged into the river from numerous dhobi ghats. The Committee further observe that as STPs are not designed to treat plastic waste, adequate facilities should be devised to prevent plastic waste from polluting the river water.

[(Sl. No. XV, Appendix-1, Para 15.31 of 62nd Report of PAC) (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The UP State Govt. has informed that according to the 'Water Quality Monitoring Bulletin for the period January to June 2003' issued by NRCD, Ministry of Environment and Forests, the pH values at different locations within the area of Lucknow city at 1/2 width of river are tabulated below:

Sl.No.	Month	pH measured at different locations		
		Gaughat	Mohan Meakin d/s	Pipraghat
1.	January, 2003	8.91	8.81	8.47
2.	February, 2003	8.22	7.79	7.79
3.	March, 2003	8.58	7.97	8.22
4.	April, 2003	8.57	8.19	8.15
5.	May, 2003	8.69	8.50	8.25
6.	June, 2003	8.69	8.50	8.25

The river Gomati enters Lucknow near Gaughat, where pH of river water is generally more than the prescribed limit of 8.50. But as the river flows through the city limits, the value pH is generally within the prescribed limit of 6.5 to 8.5. Thus, as per UP State Govt., it is clear that the use of caustic soda by 'dhobis' is not adversely effecting the river water quality in Lucknow city.

However, the Ministry has taken up the matter with UP Government and UP Pollution Control Board, who have been asked to devise appropriate measures to contain effluents being discharged into the river from dhobi ghats.

In this context, it is also submitted that the Japan International Cooperation Agency

(JICA) is providing technical assistance for a Development Study relating to "Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga river" with focus on 4 major towns of Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow. The Consultants selected by JICA for carrying out the study started their work from March, 2003 and are scheduled to complete it by March, 2005. Under the study, Master Plans and Feasibility Studies (basically Detailed Project Reports) are being prepared for sewerage and non-sewerage components for the 4 towns. In the meantime, we have already initiated the process of trying to procure external funding through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation for the projects being prepared by the JICA Study Team under the Study. Relocation of traditional dhobi ghats to inland areas of the town and construction of proper dhobi ghats with appropriate wastewater treatment facilities is one of the proposed non-sewerage component of the Master Plans and Feasibility Studies being prepared under the Study. It is proposed to implement a pilot project to develop a right process to adopt a sustainable 'constructed dhobi ghat' followed by implementation of full scale project, if the pilot project succeeds.

The UP State Govt. have also informed that the plastic waste in the sewage is retained at screens at sewage pumping stations and as well as at the STP, which is collected by Lucknow Nagar Nigam and suitably disposed of as a part of their solid waste management.

(Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004)

KANPUR

Recommendation

The Committee have noted that though around 360 mld sewage water was flowing in to the river Ganga in Kanpur city, the existing arrangement could tap only 171 mld waste water including 9 mld of (tannery waste water) in Jajmau under GAP-I. The Committee during their study visit learnt that due to various operational problems in the 130 mld Jajmau STP, only 55 mld was being treated at the moment due to various operational problems like choked sewer, erratic power supply and O&M problems of STPs. Having seen the site position and quality of effluent being treated there, the Committee desire that the sample of the treated water from Jajmau STP may be got tested again in an independent competent laboratory to check authenticity of the claims by the UPJN. The Committee express grave apprehension that with 354 tannery units in Kanpur, there is danger of the wastewater in the city having alarming levels of heavy metals like chromium. Out of these as per the latest information given by Uttar Pradesh Government, while the 210 chrome tanning tanneries are required to install chromium recovery plants to save them from closure, only 57 tanneries had installed such plants and in 12 tanneries, the chromium recovery plants were since under construction. The Committee took serious view of the fact that though 93 tanneries were ordered to be closed by the UPPCB but none had been closed so far. The Committee are concerned to note that even the existing STPs in the city, have been facing problems of chemical erosion of mechanical parts due to untreated tannery waste mixing into domestic sewer lines. What has perturbed

the Committee is that a project for resolving this problem amounting to Rs. 1.34 crore for Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) for group of small tannery units devised by Central Leather Research Institute has not yet been approved by the Government of India. The Committee therefore reiterate that the Ministry of Environment & Forests, the Central Pollution Control Board, the UPPCB and as well as District Administration must act fast to prevent deadly chemicals from further polluting the river and the surrounding areas the severity of which has reached such alarming proportions that due to presence of chromium in the irrigation water, the crops grown in Kanpur area were not getting good remuneration in the market. The Committee express grave concern over the fact that the tannery-owners were not complying with the directive to set up chromium recovery plants and the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court for bearing 50 per cent operation and maintenance cost of the 36 mld CETPs, causing unabated pollution in the river.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.32 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Presently about 360 mld municipal sewage and 9 mld tannery wastewater is being generated in Kanpur city. Under GAP Phase-I, facilities has been created to treat 171 mld of wastewater, including 9 mld tannery wastewater in 3 STPs (5 mld UASB STP, 36 mld UASB CETP and 130 mld STP). For the balance about 200 mld municipal sewage, a 200 mld capacity STP has been proposed under GAP Phase-II.

The performance monitoring of the various STPs constructed under Ganga Action Plan in various States is being carried out once a month by independent organizations appointed by NRC. In Kanpur, the performance monitoring is being carried out by IIT, Kanpur. The performance monitoring reports of IIT, Kanpur for the 130 mld STP at Jajmau for the period January to May, 2004 are enclosed at *Annexure-III*.

UP State Govt. have informed that as per latest situation, 84 chrome recovery plants have been installed and 5 chrome recovery plants are under construction. 28 tanneries have also been closed as per Hon'ble Supreme Court and High Court directives.

The scheme for installation of Common Chrome Recovery Plant for small tanneries in Jajmau has been sanctioned by the Ministry on 28th June, 2004 at an estimated cost of Rs. 105.27 lakhs. Under the Scheme, after installation the CCRP will recover chrome from the chrome liquor generated in around 90 small tanneries in Jajmau. The Central Govt. shall bear Rs. 73.69 lakhs or 70% of the capital cost of the scheme, while the remaining 30% cost (Rs. 31.58 lakhs) shall be equally between the Kanpur Nagar Nigam and the tanners. The scheme is to be completed by 30th June, 2005.

The 36 mld CETP for treatment of combined (domestic and tannery waste) wastewater constructed under GAP Phase-I is being maintained by UP State Govt. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court instructions the O&M cost of the CETP is to be borne by Kanpur Nagar Nigam and tannery owners in ratio 50:50. As per information provided by UP State Govt., the total expenditure incurred up to March, 2004 on O&M of the

CETP is Rs. 1853.928 lakhs, out of which only Rs. 303.599 lakhs have been reimbursed by Kanpur Nagar Nigam and tanneries to State Govt.. The details of expenditure, receipt and balance are given as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)				
Beneficiary	Share in expenditure to be borne	Expenditure upto 3/2004	Amount received	Balance to be received
Kanpur Nagar Nigam	50%	926.964	8.015	918.949
Tanneries	50%	926.964	295.584	631.380
Total		1853.928	303.599	1550.329

The UP State Govt. have informed that for realization of the dues (O&M expenses) from tanneries, 102 RCs were issued to the different tannery owners, against which Jajmau Tanners Association filed a writ in Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad challenging the issue of RCs for realization of dues. Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad has ordered that no coercive action shall be taken by the Respondent. The matter is being pursued by the UP Government and its implementing agencies in the Hon'ble High Court. Under these circumstances the recovery of dues from tannery owners is affected adversely.

(Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD
dated 30-11-2004)

ANNEXURE-III

Month: January, 2004

STP Location: Jajmau, Kanpur

Treatment Process: ASP Process

Capacity: 130 mld

Sampling Dates: 19—22 January, 2004

	Date	Flow, mld	Filtered BOD, mg/l		Total BOD, mg/l		Filtered COD, mg/l		Total COD, mg/l		TSS, mg/l	VSS, mg/l		TDS, mg/l		Total Coliform, MPN/100ml		Faecal Coliform, MPN/100ml		
			Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff		Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	
Primary	19,20	28.00	132	105	210	174	245	235	1152	735	998	164	614	142	1988	1720	1.60E+09	2.40E+07	1.60E+08	7.00E+06
Settling	20,21	32.00	156	123	340	216	336	278	1152	672	524	224	404	101	2252	1926	8.00E+07	3.00E+07	3.50E+07	1.10E+07
Tank	21,22	32.00	136	101	380	198	341	291	1318	941	1660	222	684	198	1686	1382	1.40E+08	5.00E+07	8.00E+07	3.40E+06
Activated	19,20	28.00	105	20	174	63	235	59	735	147	164	105	142	84	1720	1465	2.40E+07	1.60E+06	7.00E+06	1.60E+05
Sludge	20,21	32.00	123	44	216	47	278	67	672	221	224	127	101	59	1926	1502	3.00E+07	5.00E+06	1.10E+07	3.00E+06
Process	21,22	32.00	101	25	198	53	291	85	941	282	222	132	198	89	1382	1106	5.00E+78	9.00E+06	3.40E+06	5.00E+05

Month: February, 2004

STP Location: Jajmau, Kanpur

Treatment Process: ASP Process

Capacity: 130 mld

Sampling Dates: 17—20 February, 2004

	Date	Flow, mld	Filtered BOD, mg/l		Total BOD, mg/l		Filtered COD, mg/l		Total COD, mg/l		TSS, mg/l	VSS, mg/l		TDS, mg/l		Total Coliform, MPN/100ml		Faecal Coliform, MPN/100ml		
			Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff		Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	
Primary	17,18	25.00	162	132	470	282	487	263	1703	1239	488	246	278	86	2200	1804	2.30E+07	8.00E+07	1.10E+07	2.40E+06
Settling	18,19	35.00	156	120	444	192	469	225	2941	1006	2022	506	1196	338	1546	1376	4.00E+07	1.30E+07	1.10E+07	5.00E+06
Tank	19,20	30.00	156	72	300	165	354	157	1259	748	566	262	294	105	2068	1737	1.10E+08	1.60E+07	1.70E+07	9.00E+06
Activated	17,18	25.00	132	12	282	33	263	69	1239	147	246	65	86	47	1804	1687	8.00E+06	4.00E+06	2.40E+06	1.60E+06
Sludge	18,19	35.00	120	17	192	36	225	92	1006	65	506	65	338	44	1376	1238	1.30E+07	2.40E+06	5.00E+06	1.60E+06
Process	19,20	30.00	72	12	165	21	157	70	748	181	262	63	105	56	1737	1494	1.60E+07	5.00E+06	9.00E+06	3.00E+06

Month: March, 2004
Capacity: 130 mld

STP Location: Jajmau, Kanpur
Sampling Dates: 17—20 March, 2004

Treatment Process: ASP Process

	Date	Flow, mld		Filtered BOD, mg/l		Total BOD, mg/l		Filtered COD, mg/l		Total COD, mg/l		TSS, mg/l		VSS, mg/l		TDS, mg/l		Total Coliform, MPN/100ml		Faecal Coliform, MPN/100ml	
		Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff
Primary	17,18	35.00		162	75	260	168	360	200	800	1280	328	660	118	232	1962	2192	9.00E+08	8.00E+08	1.60E+08	3.50E+07
Settling Tank	18,19 19,20	30.00 35.00		336 156	138 102	500 430	300 276	288 280	184 136	960 1040	1440 1520	257 934	383 962	181 532	232 566	932 1590	1213 2436	2.30E+07 2.80E+09	1.30E+07 3.00E+08	3.00E+06 3.00E+08	2.40E+06 3.00E+07
Activated Sludge Process	17,18 18,19 19,20	35.00 30.00 35.00		75 138 102	15 20 19	168 300 276	45 39	200 184 136	80 64 57	1280 1440 1520	144 96 136	660 383 962	99 58 110	232 232 84	44 42 84	2192 1213 2436	1860 844 1498	8.00E+08 1.30E+07 3.00E+08	1.60E+06 9.00E+05 2.20E+05	3.50E+07 2.40E+06 3.00E+07	9.00E+05 2.20E+05 3.30E+04

Month: April, 2004
Capacity: 130 mld

STP Location: Jajmau, Kanpur
Sampling Dates: 20—23 April, 2004

Treatment Process: ASP Process

	Date	Flow, mld		Filtered BOD, mg/l		Total BOD, mg/l		Filtered COD, mg/l		Total COD, mg/l		TSS, mg/l		VSS, mg/l		TDS, mg/l		Total Coliform, MPN/100ml		Faecal Coliform, MPN/100ml	
		Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff
Primary	20,21	35.00		180	280	129	248	280	640	360	388	152	340	118	1904	1676	5.00E+07	1.30E+07	1.70E+07	1.70E+06	
Settling Tank	22,22 22,23	28.00 30.00		180 156	300 350	228 198	240 228	1006 551	310 350	381 304	162 116	288 212	104 88	2046 1840	1776 1744	2.30E+07 1.60E+08	8.00E+06 5.00E+07	1.30E+07 9.00E+07	5.00E+06 2.80E+06		
Activated Sludge Process	20,21 21,22 22,23	35.00 28.00 30.00		129 123 108	192 228 198	42 27 63	208 230 197	80 70 118	360 310 350	136 108 212	152 162 116	50 74 47	118 104 88	42 47 36	1676 1776 1774	1494 1598 1654	1.30E+07 8.00E+06 5.00E+07	5.00E+05 3.00E+05 3.00E+05	1.70E+06 5.00E+06 2.80E+06	3.00E+05 2.40E+05 1.40E+05	

Month: May, 2004
Capacity: 130 mld

STP Location: Jajmau, Kanpur
Sampling Dates: 25—28 May, 2004

Treatment Process: ASP Process

	Date	Flow, mld		Filtered BOD, mg/l		Total BOD, mg/l		Filtered COD, mg/l		Total COD, mg/l		TSS, mg/l		VSS, mg/l		TDS, mg/l		Total Coliform, MPN/100ml		Faecal Coliform, MPN/100ml	
		Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff	Inf	Eff
Primary	25,26	56.00		132	72	300	138	215	104	704	345	746	250	366	110	1338	1004	2.20E+08	9.00E+07	1.40E+08	1.60E+07
Settling Tank	26,27 27,28	28.00 38.00		192 186	108 108	370 300	216 156	210 201	130 122	484 453	282 249	328 264	99 100	167 140	80 84	1598 1402	1374 1093	1.60E+09 1.60E+09	1.60E+08 5.00E+08	2.40E+08 4.00E+08	9.00E+07 3.30E+07
Activated Sludge Process	25,26 26,27 27,28	56.00 28.00 38.00		72 108 108	14 15 18	138 216 156	18 30	104 130 122	54 61 42	345 282 2489	50 77 41	250 99 100	104 26 28	110 80 84	27 22 24	1004 1374 1093	903 1275 1023	9.00E+07 1.60E+08 5.00E+08	1.60E+07 1.60E+07 9.00E+07	1.60E+07 9.00E+07 3.30E+07	1.60E+06 1.20E+06 1.10E+06

Recommendation

On the issue of electric crematoria, the Committee noticed that though Kanpur city had two such crematoria, only one crematorium was functioning right now. The other was said to be non-functional due to non-payment of electricity bills worth Rs. 52 lakh. The Committee express their dissatisfaction over the idling of assets created under GAP in the city and are of the view that Uttar Pradesh Government have failed to keep their commitments of contributing matching share to GAP. Another issue which the Committee would like to highlight is the plight of working conditions of the manual labourers who were seen working in the sludge without protective gear. The Committee have also come to know that some the workers were not paid salaries for the last 3-4 months and desired that responsibility should be fixed for such lapses.

[SI.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.33 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The UP State Govt. have informed that presently both the electric crematoria at Bhaironghat and Bhagwat Das Ghat in Kanpur town are in operation and bills for power supply are being paid regularly. However, the electric crematorium constructed at Shuklaganj on the opposite bank of river Ganga (and which does not fall within the municipal limit of Kanpur town) is non-operational due to non-availability of power supply. The matter is being constantly pursued with the UP Government to make the electric crematorium operational at an early date.

The UP State Govt. have also informed the following:

- (i) All necessary safety equipments are regularly being made available to the manual labour who are working in the plant sludge area.
- (ii) The salaries of workers have been paid and now payment is being made to the workers regularly.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004 -NCRD
dated 30-11-2004]

ALLAHABAD

Recommendation

The committee are informed that in Allahabad against 210 mld (2002) total domestic sewage being generated, treatment capacity of only 60 mld had been created under GAP-1 with the completion of all the 19 schemes costing Rs. 30.12 crore that had been started in the year 1986 in the city. The Committee, however, have taken a serious view for the Ministry of Environment & Forests' inapt handling of Naini STP issue which had not only Rs. 1.20 extra but also resulted in time

overrun of five years though one of the reason was that the contractors, M/s Driplex, New Delhi could not complete the work as per agreement. The Committee take a strong view of the fact that Ministry of Environment & Forests' policies have not been strong and convincing enough to ensure timely completion of schemes and would like them to be very strict while dealing with such matters in future and fix responsibility for the delay in implementation of various schemes under GAP-I & II. Further, the Committee observe that at the STPs at Allahabad, the full flow of waste water was not coming in due to long hours of powers cuts as well as worn-out condition of sewer lines which nonetheless lead to nonfunctioning of STPs thereby nullifying the very objectives of installing them. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Uttar Pradesh State Government, implementing agencies and local bodies to assess the gravity of such a situation and take remedial action on priority basis in a time bound manner.

[SI.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.34 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The total sewage generated in Allahabad as per UP State Govt.'s estimates for the year 2002 is 210 mld. Arrangements for treatment of 60 mld sewage has been made under GAP-I, while a STP of 29 mld capacity has been sanctioned under GAP-II from the present available allocation for Allahabad town. To tackle the balance pollution of the river from Allahabad, the Master Plan and Feasibility Study for sewerage and non-sewerage components in the town is under preparation by the JICA Study Team in close collaboration with UP Governments and its concerned agencies under the ongoing JICA assisted Development Study on Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga river. The process of trying to procure external funding through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation for the projects being prepared by the JICA Study Team under the Study has already been initiated.

With regards to the Naine STP, the UP State Govt. have informed the following:

The work for the construction of 60 mld STP at Naini including imported power package amounting to Rs. 798.50 lakhs was awarded to M/s Driplex Water Engineer Limited, New Delhi after a global tender. The date of start of work was 25.8.90 and the date of completion was 24.2.93. The contract bond of the said work consists of five volumes in which one complete volume is full of conditions. The firm totally failed to fulfill their obligation as per the contract. The firm could complete only 47% of the work in stipulated period as mentioned above. For failure on the part of the contractor to complete the work in time there is penalty clause in the bond and according the firm was asked *vide* GM, Allahabad letter No. 505/449-Driplex/32 dated 21.4.94 (copy enclosed as **Annexure-IV**) to discontinue the work under clause 7.20.2 of vol. II of the contract bond and the firm was intimated that remaining work will be got completed at their risk and cost through what ever means and agencies that may be found expedient in accordance with the provision of the contract bond. In the meantime, the firm put their representation to Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India to reconsider the case. The Ministry constituted a Committee under the convenership of Dr. Biswas, Chairman, CPCB to look into the matter. Based on the recommendations

of the Biswas Committee, the decision taken in the steering Committee of NRCA and the advice of Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Environment & Forests was of the view that further disputes and litigation which would cause further delays must be avoided at all costs and accordingly directed UP State Govt. that the balance work be completed by the same contractor after excluding the power package (copy of Ministry of Environment & Forests letter No. J-13012/3/-GPD (Vol.IV) dated 22.5.1995 is enclosed as *Annexure-V*). Thus, the contract bond was revived and after deducting the cost of the imported power package the work for the construction of 60 mld STP, excluding imported power package amounting to Rs. 558.50 lakhs (Rs. 798.50 lakhs-Rs. 240.00), was carried out by the firm M/s Driplex Water Engineering Limited, New Delhi.

Moreover, it is submitted that in the year 1987 when the tender for the construction of 60 mld STP (including power package) was invited, at that time indigenous power engines were not being manufactured in India. Therefore, at that time there was no option but to purchase imported Engines. But when the manufacture of the same started in India only then it was advised to delete the imported power from the scope of work of the contractor to save foreign currency.

It is to mention here as per NRCD's sanction order dated 24.9.96 for the 60 mld Naini STP, the estimated cost of indigenous power package was Rs. 360.00 lakhs whereas the deduction for imported power package from original contract bond has been done for an amount of Rs. 240.00 lakhs. Thus, an expenditure of Rs. 120.00 lakhs (Rs. 360.00 lakhs-Rs. 240.00 lakhs) was involved in the above items, but the overall expenditure incurred till date is within the sanctioned estimate. However, it is submitted that originally there was provision of imported power package in the estimate. As per conditions of the agreement, State Govt. had to provide protection to the contractor to cover the currency risk. For protection purposes, the contractor quoted the maximum amount of foreign currency as 12,00,000 pound sterling as on the date of tender i.e. date of quoting the prices by contractor which is 29.9.1987. If imported power package would have been purchased, then apart from the cost of power package an additional amount to protect the selling exchange rate would have also be given to the firm. Considering this, the comparison of the cost of imported power package v/s indigenous is shown as below:

Sl. No.	Items	Imported power package (Rs. lakhs)	Indigenous power package (Rs. lakhs)
1.	Cost	240.00	360.00
2.	Additional amount to protect the selling exchange rate	1200000x (52.98*-21.565**) = 376.98	—
	Total (1+2)	616.98	360.00
	Say	617.00	360.00

* Conversion value of pound sterling to Rs. on date of administrative approval and expenditure sanction i.e. 24.9.1996.

** Conversion value of pound sterling to Rs. as 29.9.1997.

Thus, as can be seen there is eventually a saving of Rs. 257.00 lakhs (Rs.617.00 lakhs -Rs.360.00 lakhs) by purchasing the indigenous power package.

The issue of delay in implementation of GAP schemes is being constantly taken up with the UP Government and its implementing agencies through regular review meetings at various levels and they have been asked to ensure timely completion of all sanctioned schemes.

The UP state Govt. have informed that there is average 4 hours per day power cut in Allahabad town. Due to power cut there water production from tubewells in the area from which the wastewater reaches Naini STP. The average production of waste water in the area is around 51 mld, which reaches Naini STP. UP state Govt. have also informed that DG sets have been installed and are functional at all the sewage pumping stations feeding wastewater to Naini STP, so that there is no over flow of sewage from sewage pumping stations in the river, during the period of breakdown in power supply.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004 -NRCD
dated 30-11-2004]

ANNEXURE-IV

No. 505/449-Driplax/32

date: 21.4.97

To,

M/s Driplex Water Engineering (Int'l) Ltd,
Driplex House,
9-Panchseel Community Centre,
New Delhi-110017.

Sub:— C.B. No. 4/G.N./90-91 for construction of 60 mld sewage Treatment Plant at Naini, Allahabad.

Dear Sir,

Whereas the aforesaid contract was awarded to you vide undersigned's letter No. 1487/449/64 dated 22.8.90 and operation there of started w.e.f. 25.8.90 and the date of completion was 24.2.93.

Whereas the progress of the work was invariably found much below the performance stipulated in the contract as will be seen from the succeeding paragraph.

Whereas you were constantly reminded vide the following letters to expedite progress, fulfill your commitments as per contractual provisions and agreed programme.

1	Letter No.	496/486-STP Naini/98 dt. 12.4.91
2.	"	768/449-Driplex/dt. 3.6.91
3.	"	1013/449/23 dt. 19.7.91
4.	"	1114/449-Driplex/40 dt. 5.8.91
5.	"	35/449-Driplex/1 dt. 4.1.92
6.	"	56/449-Driplex/20 dt. 23.1.92
7.	"	165/449-Driplex/42 dt. 12.2.92
8.	"	173/449-Driplex/44 dt. 15.2.92
9.	"	132/449-Driplex/95 dt. 6.4.92
10.	"	Comp-VNS/449-Driplex dt. 8.10.1992
11.	"	870/449-Driplex/263 dt. 2.11.92
12.	"	941/449-Driplex/283 dt. 18.11.92
13.	"	168/449-Driplex/38 dt. 27.2.93
14.	"	214/449-Driplex/44 dt. 22.3.93

15. " 338/449-Driplex/87 dt.13.5.93
16. " 418/449-Driplex/136 dt. 25.6.93
17. " 493/449-Driplex/145 dt. 13.7.93
18. " 603/449-Driplex/158 dt. 7.8.93
19. " 774/449-Driplex/177 dt. 28.9.93
20. " 1018/449-Driplex/190 dt. 12.11.93
21. " 435/449-Driplex/31 dt. 7.4.94

Whereas, time being the essence of the contract, you have totally failed to fulfill your obligations as per contract and the progress is only about 47% against a time lapse of more than 100% till 20th April '94 and a number of items e.g. control rooms for Aeration tank, Digester, Thickened sludge pump house, Rising main for Treated Effluent Pumps, Interconnection of Rising mains, Aerators moters for Aerator, sludge pumps, motor for pumps, screw pumps, motors for screw pumps flow measuring device, flow meter, flow indicator have not even been started at all or the progress is virtually negligible.

You are hereby directed to discontinue work under clause 7.20.2 of volume II of the contract bond. Please note that the remaining work will hence forth be get completed at your risk and cost provisions contained in clause 7.20.2 read with clause 7.19.2 and other relevant clauses of the contract bond, through whatever means and agencies that may be found expedient. You are further advised to depute your authorised representative at site on 6th May 1994 to get up-to-date measurments recorded and materials at site verified failing which this will be done in your absence and will be binding on you.

Your's faithfully,

Sd/-
(Sharad Kumar Singh)
General Manager

ANNEXURE-V

भारत सरकार

Government of India

BY SPPED POST

दूरभाष/Telephone:

पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय

तार: शुद्धजल

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Telegram: SHUDHJAL

राष्ट्रीय नदी संरक्षण निदेशालय

फैक्स/Fax: 4360009

National River Conservation Directorate

टेलेक्स/ Telex: 31-74065 GPD IN

पर्यावरण भवन, केन्द्रीय कार्यालय परिसर,

Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O. Complex

लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003

Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Dated the 22nd May, 1995.

No.J-13012/3/87-GPD (Vol. IV)

To

The Secretary, Urban Development,

Government of Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow.

Subject: STP contracts at Kanpur & Allahabad—Balance works to be completed by M/s Driplex—orders issued.

Sir,

The delay in the completion of the STP contracts at Kanpur & Allahabad, the largest under the Ganga Action Plan, has been a matter of great concern to this Ministry. During the execution of these Contracts a number of disputes arose between UPJN & the Contractor M/s Driplex which led to their frustration. UP Government in their letter of 4.5.94 informed that the UPJN had issued notice for determining these contracts, and getting the work completed through debit agency at the risk and the cost of the Contractor.

2. To avoid the likely litigations leading to further indefinite delays and with a view to finding a feasible solution for early completion of these works, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India (MOEF) after examining the matter in its entirety, appointed a Committee (Biswas Committee) under the Convenership of Dr. Biswas, Chairman, CPCB; and Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Urban Development, Secretary, Urban Development, U.P., Secretary, Environment, U.P and Director, NTPC as its members. This Committee was to advise the Steering Committee of the CGA which is competent to accord approval to the projects under Ganga Action Plan. In view of the Appointment of the above said Committee, the UP Govt. were advised in GPDs letter of April 18, 1994 not to determine the Contract or to encash the Bank guarantees until a decision is taken in the matter and the present Contractor should be allowed to continue the work.

3. The Biswas Committee, among others, recommended that the balance work in both the contracts be completed through the present Contractor *viz* M/s Driplex Water Engineering Co. Ltd. and to exclude the power package from the scope of the present Contract besides substituting other imported components with indigenous ones. World Bank, the funding agency of these projects have also concurred with the above suggestions subject to some stipulations.

4. The report of Biswas Committee was discussed in the 29th Steering Committee which referred it to a sub-committee for further examination. The representative of U.P. Government, while opposing in principle the compensation proposed by Biswas Committee, has agreed to go along the decision taken by the Steering Committee.

5. The Sub Committee, keeping in view the Biswas Committee's report, recommended a package, *inter alia*, comprising of compensation for lost deemed export incentive and escalations on E&M and civil works.

6. The 30th Steering Committee took note of Sub Committee's as well as Biswas Committee's report and authorised the Chairman to get the matter examined by JS&FA of MOEF and submit final proposals to the Ministry of Finance. The observations of Ministry of Finance have since been received.

7.1 The Ministry of Environment & Forests has carefully considered the proposal in the light of the advice given by the Ministry of Finance and agree with their observation that any course of action should be within the framework of the Contract. The delay in completion of these important projects has already attracted a great deal of criticism. The Ministry is of the view that further disputes and litigation which would only cause further indefinite delays, must be avoided at all cost, and accordingly direct that the balance work be completed through the present Contractor after excluding the power package as advised by the Committee set up by MOEF. The aspect relating to compensation may be referred to arbitration as per the provision of the Contract and parties to cooperate to avoid undue delay in finalising the award.

7.2 The other issues having no financial implication and which had been deliberated by the Committee, should also be settled for work to progress unhindered. You may like to seek necessary extension for the guarantee from the Contractor.

7.3 You are requested to take necessary further action to start the work immediately. Contractual aspects in this regard may be finalised at your end in consultation with competent legal authority.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(J.C. Kala)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

Copy to:

1. Chairperson, UPJN, Lucknow.
2. Managing Director, UPJN, Lucknow.

Recommendation

The Committee have also noted that there was direct discharge from a drain coming from the Army establishment carrying polluted water directly into the Sangam area. They, therefore, urge the officials to take up this matter with the Defence Ministry on priority basis so that they could install a STP to treat their wastewater prior to its release into the river. Furthermore, the Committee desire that elaborate arrangements should be made for compulsory and effective sewage water treatment in the new and upcoming residential colonies by means of formulating plans to set up more STPs, Oxidation ponds and fishponds to keep the river pollution under control. The Committee also observe that the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the State Government officials had erred in not having taken enough cautious steps in installing a pumping station at Lukarganj whose inadequately installed outgoing sewer has been causing over flow from manholes. The Committee would like the Ministry of Environment & Forests to be more careful while approving DPRs in future.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.36 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It has been informed by UP State Govt. that the concerned Army officials have been requested to install a STP to treat the wastewater of the drain which emerges out from the army establishment and directly discharges into the Sangam area. The Army officials have assured to give highest priority to this issue.

UP State Govt. has also informed that the Allahabad Development Authority has been asked for setting up necessary STPs in new and upcoming residential colonies.

The Lukarganj SPS is nearly 45 years old. Its renovation works were carried out in the year 1989 under GAP-I. UP State Govt. have informed that the pumping capacity of Lukarganj SPS and carrying capacity of its rising main is sufficient to meet present sewage discharge. But due to limited carrying capacity of outgoing 22"x33" sewer line, there is overflow from its manholes and sewage accumulates in the nearby drains. The SPS is maintained by UP State Govt., where as the outgoing sewer line is maintained by Jal Sansthan, Allahabad. At present no rectification work is needed in SPS at Lukarganj, where as for rectification in carrying capacity of outgoing sewer, the provision for extension of existing rising main to another existing 54" brick sewer which is running parallel to 22"x33" sewer and has sufficient carrying capacity has been made in revised PFR costing Rs. 234.80 crore prepared by UP Government/UP State Govt. however, during a recent meeting with the JICA Study Team in Allahabad, the General Manager, Allahabad Jal Sansthan informed them that the existing 54" brick sewer has recently been collapsed and is not in a good condition. Therefore, in

view of above the possibility of another proposal is being explored by UP State Govt. and Allahabad Jal Sansthan.

In this context, it is also submitted that the Japan International Cooperation agency (JICA) is providing technical assistance for a Development Study relating to "Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga river" with focus on 4 major towns of Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow. The Consultants selected by JICA for carrying out the study started their work from March, 2003 and are scheduled to complete it by March, 2005. Under the study, Master Plans and Feasibility Studies (basically Detailed Project Reports) are being prepared for sewerage and non-sewerage components for the 4 towns in order to tackle the balance pollution of river Ganga/Gomati in these towns in a comprehensive and holistic manner. We have also initiated the process of trying to procure external funding through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation for the projects being prepared by the JICA Study Team under the Study.

The recommendation of the Committee about the Ministry being more careful in future in approving DPRs has been noted. The UP State Govt. have also been asked to ensure that all DPRs prepared by their field units are properly appraised and vetted in the Appraisal Cell at UP State Govt. Headquarters before being sent to NRCD in future.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

VARANASI

Recommendation

The Committee notice that the cause of the pollution of river Ganga at Varanasi is due to different activities along the ghats such as bathing, washing of clothes, open defecation, cattle wallowing, disposal of dead bodies, dust and garbage and disposal of flowers and leaves and other "pooja Samagree" from various temples, which is estimated to be nearly 10 tonnes per day. The Committee have been informed that under GAP-I, pollution abatement efforts were taken in Varanasi with the objective to intercept and divert 122 mld domestic wastewater and set up treatment capacity of 102 mld. Accordingly 34 schemes were devised which covered interception, diversion and treatment of sewage, low cost sanitation, river from development, water quality monitoring etc. Under GAP Phase-I, the UPJN undertook renovation of existing 5 SPS, rehabilitation of Assi and Konia MPS, construction of Sulabh Complexes at the sanctioned cost of Rs. 45.11 crore. The Committee are of the view that a realistic study of the actual ground situation was not undertaken at the time of drafting of the Ganga Action Plan which led to escalation of costs in all the cities in UP where the works under GAP were implemented. The Committee observe that the GAP schemes should have been formulated anticipating the sewerage conditions prevailing in the cities at

least 25 years later. Even though the representatives of the Ministry of Environment informed that the existing sewerage manual, pertaining to GAP, directed that the sewer lines, once laid, should be able to handle wastewater up to next 30 years. Due to time and cost overruns, the implementation of GAP as a measure to keep water of river Ganga at bathing standards is going to be a never ending exercise. The Committee observe that the cost of maintaining STPs in Varanasi at Rs. 7.5 crore per annum is quite high and without devising a mechanism for making STPs and other assets as a source of revenue by way of "users pay" and "beneficiaries pay" principles and also by way of selling its useful by-products, there is no other way for the States to bear such huge operating cost of assets. As in the case of Varanasi, the Committee urge that sewer tax may be levied in other cities as well, under a sound mechanism. Taking note of inadequate monitoring of GAP works in almost every place, the Committee desire that at the State level, Governments should find out the snags that have been hampering constitution and effective functioning of Citizens Monitoring Committees (CMCs) for each town, as per the direction of the NRCD issued in March, 1995, which could monitor the execution and timely completion of the schemes and also generate public awareness and participation.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1, Para 15.37 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The pollution of the river from different activities along the ghats such as bathing, washing of clothes, open defecation, cattle wallowing, disposal of dead bodies, dust and garbage including disposal of flowers, leaves and other 'puja samgree' is matter of great concern. While pollution of the river from certain activities like open defecation, disposal of dead bodies and washing of clothes can be reduced to a certain extent by implementation of schemes relating to low cost sanitation, crematoria and relocation of dhobi ghats, control of non-point sources of pollution is a municipal function to be carried out by the local body. The Ministry is rigorously pursuing with the UP State Government and its local bodies for taking necessary action to control the pollution of the river from non-point sources. Public awareness and participation is an important step in ensuring that pollution from non-point sources is controlled.

It is submitted that as per the present Guidelines issued by NRCD for preparation of DPRs, all the civil works such as sewerlines, pumping station etc. are to be constructed for a design period of 30 years except that for STP which is to be constructed for a design period of 10 years, with a provision for adding on additional modules in future as and when required. The electrical and mechanical works are to be designed for a period of 15 years, because the pumping plants usually have a life of 15 years.

The implementation of GAP-II at Varanasi got delayed due to non-settlement of the issue relating to the selection of one of the two alternative proposals for Varanasi (one proposal was from the UP State Govt./Government of UP and the other proposal from Sankat Mochan Foundation, an NGO of Varanasi) and the continued litigation

with Sankat Mochan Foundation. The delay in the implementation of GAP-II has aggravated the problems of pollution of the river at Varanasi. Against the present approved cost of Rs. 45.05 crore, 4 schemes amounting to Rs. 41.61 crore have been sanctioned for Varanasi. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its hearing on 10.4.2003 disposed of the Court case in the matter and vacated all the stays granted earlier on implementation of works. Thus, subsequently work on two schemes have been started by UP State Govt. and tendering process for the remaining two sanctioned schemes is ongoing.

To tackle the balance pollution of the river from Varanasi, the Master Plan and Feasibility Study for sewerage and non-sewerage components in the town is under preparation by the JICA Study Team in close collaboration with UP Government and its concerned agencies under the ongoing JICA assisted Development Study on Water Quality Management Plan for Ganga river. The process of trying to procure external funding through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation for the projects being prepared by the JICA Study Team under the Study for Varanasi town has already been initiated.

The issue of sustainability of the project and proper O&M of the assets created under various river action plans is being repeatedly taken up with the various State Governments, including UP Government during different meetings held with them at different levels, including the NRCA meetings chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The State Governments have been asked to take steps for augmentation of resources for maintaining assets through amalgam of strategies like taxation, sale of treated water, deployment of assets for revenue raising, privatization of maintenance of facilities, etc. The States may also approach their State Finance Commission to earmark funds for O&M of assets through devolution process. The States have also been informed that innovative ways of raising resources for O&M will be supported by Government of India.

The UP State Govt. have informed that as far as sewer tax is concerned, this is already levied at the rate of 3% of annual rental value and is collected by the respective Jal Sansthan in various towns. However, the State Government is trying to strengthen the financial condition of local bodies, so that they are able to bear O&M cost of pollution control works. State Government is also exploring the possibility to increase the revenue from sale of useful by-products and by way of imposing other revenue charges using the 'users pay' and 'beneficiary pay' principles.

As a part of the JBIC assisted Yamuna Action Plan, the Ministry is supporting the Agra Nagar Nigam Municipal Reform Project, under which efforts are being made by the Agra Nagar Nigam in close collaboration with consultants appointed for the project to increase the revenue generation in the town and make some institutional changes in the structure of the Nagar Nigam to improve its efficiency. The project is under implementation and it is hoped that its results could be of use in replication in other towns.

The JICA Study Team while preparing the Master Plan and Feasibility Study in the four towns of UP are also looking critically into the sustainability aspects related to the project. An institutional development and capacity building plan for proper O&M

of the assets already created/to be created in Varanasi under the GAP project is under preparation in collaboration with UP Government and its concerned agencies under the Study.

In compliance to the report of PAC and as per direction of NRCD issued in March 1995, the UP State Govt. have informed that the meeting of Citizens Monitoring Committee is now being held for generating public awareness and participation, including monitoring for timely completion of the schemes related with Ganga Action Plan.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

E. BIHAR
PATNA

Recommendation

Despite claims and counter claims regarding Bihar government's inability to ensure optimum utilization of assets created under GAP, the Committee are concerned to note that Bihar government have not been able to complete two schemes under GAP-I. STPs at East Zone Patna and Munger, though financed 100 per cent by the Central Government till date, after a lapse of more than 13 years of its scheduled date of completion ostensibly due to land acquisition, disputes, even though GAP-I was officially declared closed on 31.03.2000. The Committee are shocked to know that Rs. 1.17 crore out of the GAP funds had been deposited in a personal account of the Managing Director, Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad between the period 1986-2000 despite the fact that Bihar Government have a suitable mechanism to ensure effective utilization of funds released to the implementing agencies. The Committee, therefore, observe that by claiming that no financial irregularity exists in the expenses incurred by implementing agencies, Bihar government, unfortunately though, are trying to conceal glaring financial irregularities committed by its implementing agencies instead of bringing the offender to book. The Committee, therefore, desire that responsibility be fixed for such a lapse and the Committee be apprised of the action taken in this regard. The Committee also desired that a detailed report on the reasons for non-functioning of GAP schemes and those responsible for the same as well as other financial irregularities may be sent to them along with the provisions made or contemplated for the proper O&M of the STPs, Ecs and other assets created in the State. What has caused more concern to the Committee is that no sewage treatment scheme has been sanctioned to the State under GAP-II as yet particularly when GAP-II was originally scheduled for completion by December 2001. In this context the Committee are perturbed to have the contradictory statements made by Ministry of Environment & Forests and Bihar government. While Ministry of Environment & Forests are insisting that State governments are very slow in the preparation of DPRs and very often that too, not as per the norms prescribed by them; Bihar government have submitted that they were able to submit DPRs within the time limit without any major problem but schemes could not be sanctioned due to frequent observations made by NRCD from time to time. This is almost the same in the case of Uttar Pradesh also. The Committee therefore, while urging Ministry of Environment & Forests to issue clear cut parameters

and guidelines for ensuring proper preparation of DPRs by States at one go, would like to be apprised of the comprehensive details as to what has gone wrong in the case of DPRs submitted by Bihar Government.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I, Para 15.38 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The Govt. of Bihar has intimated that the amount of Rs. 1.17 crore, out of the GAP funds, was actually kept in the SBI Account of the BRJP, which is linked with Treasury. This is not a personal account of the Managing Director, Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad and there is no question to keep the said amount in personal account of the Managing Director, Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad between the period of 1986-2000. They have mentioned that fund in the head of State Plan was released during that period, which was also kept in that account.

They have also mentioned that proper O&M of the assets under GAP-I in the State was affected and the assets were non-functional for some time due to financial crunch and resource of the State Govt.

They have intimated that 5 Nos. of following STP under GAP-I have been functional and operate regularly since 2000.

- (1) STP, Saidpur
- (2) STP, Pahari
- (3) STP, Beur
- (4) STP, Chapra
- (5) STP, Bhagalpur

The State Govt. has intimated that fund has been made available to the BRJP in the year 2003-04 for completion of 2 Nos. of in complete STPs viz., (i) STP, Karmali Chak (East Zone), Patna and (ii) STP, Munger. Remaining work of the both incomplete schemes have been started and are in progress, which are to be completed by August 2004.

They have also intimated that inspite of the financing crunch of the State Govt. fund to the tune of Rs. 270 lakh for operation and maintenance of these assets is being regularly released by the State Govt. since last two years. All STPs have been made functional. Additional fund of Rs. 199 Lakh also has been sanctioned and released by the State Govt. for the special repairs of the different components of projects of STPs/I&Ds created under GAP-I to the Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad. These special repair works are in progress and are to be completed by October 2004. After completion of these works, all projects of STPs/I&Ds will be functional to their full capacity.

In case of Bihar, DPRs of 12 sewage schemes under GAP-II, submitted by the BRJP, lacked in important details and requisite information and also commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M and land cost, wherever applicable, not furnished therewith, which are necessary for processing the proposals. These DPRs have been sent back to the State to rectify them.

While processing the DPRs submitted by the State of Bihar, it has been observed that the DPRs, as submitted, lack in vital details and information including certification and procedural requirements by the concerned implementing agencies. This proves as a handicap to process the DPRs for necessary sanction.

With a view to streamline consideration of the DPRs received in the NRCD for NRCP works from the various State Govts., the NRCD has approved check lists for DPRs, to facilitate proper preparation of the DPRs by the implementing agencies and to ensure that all important details and pre-requisite information is furnished by the proponent at the time of submission of DPRs. These checklists have been prepared to serve as a guidance to ensure the availability of all requisite information for purpose of processing of the DPRs.

Accordingly, these checklists have been provided to the BRJP on 9.2.2004 and they have been requested to submit new/recasted DPRs to this Directorate through the State Govt. in future, along with duly filled up checklists and commitment of the State Govt. to bear O&M and land cost, wherever applicable.

The State Govt. has also been requested that it should be ensured to send the DPRs of the sewerage schemes *viz.*, I&D and STP of a town along with that of land acquisition so that these are sanctioned all together by the NRCD to avoid mismatch.

The status of the new/recasted DPRs for sewage scheme is yet to be submitted by the State Govt. has been shown in the Annexure I.

The NRCD is constantly pursuing the matter with the BRJP/State Govt. for submission of remaining DPRs under GAP-II at the earliest for all the towns of Bihar.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD, dated 30.11.2004]

F. WEST BENGAL

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to note that as of March 2000, against a target of treating 373.63 mld sewage, no achievement had been made by West Bengal government, the total achievement under GAP in the State is in treated 341.06 mld against a target of 750.23 mld. The Committee are informed that in GAP-II, the State government had identified 191 schemes out of which NRCD had sanctioned 93 schemes so far and 27 schemes are yet to be sanctioned. Another 62 more schemes are yet to be formulated and sent to NRCD. Out of these 62 more schemes, 50 schemes relate to public participation for which the Ministry of Environment & Forests are supposed to give the State Governments the guidelines. The Committee, therefore, once again, attribute the responsibility for delay in achieving targets in the State to the Ministry of Environment & Forests who have so far failed to process the DPRs and formulating/forwarding the guidelines for public participation in the implementation of GAP schemes.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.40 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The State Government had initially identified 191 schemes of I&D, STP and non-core sector. However, due to the severe erosion problems the State Government has decided to drop 17 schemes of core and non-core in the towns of Dhulian, Jangipur and Chakda. The latest of scheme under GAP-II is given below:

Total number of schemes (revised)	— 174
DPRs sanctioned	— 117

The State Government has recently submitted the pending DPRs of core and non-core, which are being processed. Out of these 17 DPRs are such where the cost of schemes is much above the cost earlier approved by the CCEA. The possibility to meet this access cost from the intra/inter town saving is under examination. Most of the other DPRs are of afforestation & public participation. It may be mentioned that so far 52 schemes of I&D and STP to treat 77.48 mld of sewage have been sanctioned. Many of the schemes are in the advance stage of completion.

The guidelines for public participation have been communicated to the State Government and consequent to that scheme of public participation and awareness in 10 towns of West Bengal have also been sanctioned. Through the schemes of PPA, seminars, workshops, training and awareness camp for the target group, shramdan, exhibition and quiz programmes for students on river pollution control will be organized.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD, dated
30.11.2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are perturbed to find that execution of GAP schemes in the State had been carried out in a very arbitrary manner. Out of the 4 schemes of interception & diversion sanctioned by NRCD under the GAP-II, the implementing agencies could complete none till March-2000. The stipulated dates for 3 schemes were already over. The Committee are also concerned to note that Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), now known as Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, did not furnish the details of targeted and laid sewer lines under the GAP-II, to Audit in the absence of which no proper evaluation of works under taken in this sector could be done. KMDA had indulged in a series of avoidable financial losses in the construction pumping stations at Cossipore-Chitpur, laying of sewer line at Nabadwip in 1989 without undertaking solid investigations even though the sub soil of Nabadwip town was sandy in nature and in approving of a defective design, the construction of lifting station at Howrah. Further, the Committee find that in the case of laying of sewer lines of interception & diversion and STP schemes at Behrampore for treatment of 4 mld sewage at the total cost of Rs. 2.32 crore, no necessary spadework such as proper soil investigation were carried out which has resulted in wasteful expenditure of Rs. 2.32 crore. In another case of substandard execution of an interception & diversion schemes at Hooghly-Chinsurah at a cost of Rs. 4.91 crore in June 1994, the Committee noticed that the CMDA did not cast bed concrete before laying the sewer lines. The CMDA noticed similar road subsidence during 1998-99 along different alignments of sewer

lines in Bhatpara. Though CMDA took up repairing of damaged sewer lines as well as surface roads, the work remained incomplete as of March 200. The Committee report had concluded that the lapses were on account of negligence and failure on the part of supervisory staff engaged in execution of these works. The Committee while admonishing West bengal government to strictly adhere to the financila norm's and other guidelines of the scheme, desire them to be fully accountable for the schemes implemented in the State.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.42 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The State Government has informed the present position as on 31st May, 2004 of the 4(four) schemes of inter-section and diversion under GAP-II as follows:

(i) I&D scheme for Garulia	Present progress is 95% and is likely to be completed by September, 2004.
(ii) I&D scheme for Circular Canal	Present progress is 96% and is likely to be completed by December, 2004.
(iii) I&D scheme for Tolly's Nullah	Present progress is 75% and is likely to be completed by March, 2005.
(iv) I&D scheme at Naihati	Though sanction for I&D scheme was received earlier, the work could not be started since the DPRs for the related components <i>viz.</i> MPs & LS were under revision and after receipt of revised DPRs sanction has been issued in March, 2004. The work is likely to be completed by December, 2005.

The scheme relating to construction of 3(three) pumping station at Cossipore-Chitpore has already been commissioned. As submitted earlier by the State Govt., the matter relating to realization of financial loss from the contractor is still sub-judice.

As far as the Enquiry Committee is concerned, the Committee constituted for fixing up the responsibility has recently submitted its report in April, 2004. The report is being examined for taking up further action.

The circumstances under which the schemes *viz.* laying of sewer lines at Nabadwip, Howrah, Beharampore, Hooghly-Chinsurah and Bhatpara were executed have been submitted earlier. To stop recurrence of similar phenomenon, necessary guidelines have been issued to all executing departments/wings for taking up soil investigation alongwith the alignment of the proposed sewer line. The said guidelines are being strictly followed by all concerned.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

The Committee noted that the Ministry of Environment and Forests left to the State Governments, the crucial determinants of sewage characteristic and downstream water quality for selection of towns for phase-II of the GAP, which led to non-uniformity in selection of towns by the States. The Ministry also lacked a mechanism to evaluate the estimations of sewage by the States, which in the opinion of the Committee, is rather strange and highly deplorable in terms of controlling water pollution of the river system in the country.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.4 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

At the time of launching of GAP-I, NRCB relied upon the report prepared by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on Ganga Basin published in 1984. Similarly, at the time of launching schemes under GAP-II, data submitted by State Governments on the sewage generation under different towns was used to select towns for the river cleaning programmes. These data are being continuously updated based on the latest report submitted by the State Governments and CPCB. NRCB on its own does not have any mechanism of its own to evaluate and check the estimation of sewage in different towns. The data given by State Governments and CPCB are considered authentic, as they have got their own mechanism of generating this data on a realistic basis.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCB,
dated 30-11-2004.]

Recommendation

The Committee have observed that for GAP-II, the NRCB did not fix any clear parameters in terms of sewage characteristics or downstream water quality for selection of town and had left this work to State Governments. The Expenditure Finance Committee however, later on recommended that States might not include towns with BOD (Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand) less than 3 milligram per litre downstream of the river. The Committee note that Uttar Pradesh Government excluded Kannauj where BOD levels was always above 3 mg/l during 1994-99 and even touched 4.8 mg/l in

1999. In Bihar, Danapur city which discharged 8 drains with 0.6 mld of raw sewage direct into Ganga, also was not selected. Likewise, Uluberia in West Bengal with a BOD of 43.07 mg/l also remained excluded. The respective State Governments did not send their names in their proposals. In this connection, the Committee are happy to note that these towns have been included in GAP-II on the directions of Supreme Court in its order dated 01 November 1995. The Committee feel that it was erroneous on the part of the State Governments not to have included these towns in the first place and advised NRCD accordingly on their own instead of intervention by the Supreme Court in this regard.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1, Para 15.14 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It may be mentioned that generally the BOD levels in the river Ganga at Uluberia are below 3 mg/l due to the tidal effect in this stretch. Thus it does not violate the criteria recommended by the Expenditure Committee that States might not include towns with BOD (Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand) less than 3 miligram per litre downstream of the river.

Towns having population more than 1 lakh were identified for inclusion under GAP-II. Population of Kannauj, U.P. & Danapur, Bihar being less than 1 lakh was not selected for the purpose. Also, the BOD of river Ganga in the stretch of the State of Bihar is less than 3 mg/l.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee note that as per guidelines circulated by NRCD to all the State Governments, four actual samples of water were to be taken in a month, with 3 samples on week days and the 4th sample on a 0/6 day (*i.e.* Sunday). The measured sewage flow of a towns should also be cross-checked with the water supply rate, population and interception factor to ensure that the assessment is as realistic as possible. It was noticed by Audit that the Ministry discontinued the water quality monitoring due to constraints of funds. Collateral findings revealed further deterioration of water quality in all its parameters. The coliform level exceeded in 17 out of 60 stations sampled during 1999. The Committee wonder as to how without water quality test checks, the schemes can be declared successfully implemented. The main task of GAP was to reduce the pollution load on the Ganga water but, if the samples for checking the quality of water at different stations are stopped then the NRCD will not be able to monitor the quality of water. In the opinion of the Committee this will, in turn, further deteriorate the quality of water and the pollutants will not be measured to the safety level and hence, will defeat

the very purpose of implementing the Ganga Action Plan. Apart from ensuring proper operationalisation of assets created under the scheme, the Committee feel the need to strengthen mechanism and the capacity of institutions for effective control of water pollution and waste from point source by emphasizing socio-economic measures at the same time as using law enforcement measures. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry of Environment & Forests to monitor, check and evaluate water quality of water sources and management of water pollution continuously and systematically by collaboration and co-operation amongst concerned agencies.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1, Para 15.15 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The water quality monitoring of river Ganga was discontinued for the period from October, 99 to August, 2000 and restarted from Sept./October, 2000 with a view to utilize the data generated under the ongoing GEMS/MINARS programme of CPCB. However, it was later observed that the WQM under CPCB's programmes do not meet the objectives of WQM under GAP and there was delay in submission of data. The WQM under GAP was thereafter restored from Sept./Oct. 2000.

The water quality monitoring of river Ganga is presently monitored through 5 agencies as per following details.

Sl.No.	Agency/Institute	Stretch Monitored
1.	PCRI (BHEL), Hardwar	Rishikesh-Garhmukteshwar
2.	IIT, Kanpur	Kannauj U/S-Kanpur D/S
3.	CPCB, ZO Kanpur	Allahabad U/S-Tarighat
4.	Patna University, Patna	Buxar-Rajmahal

The WQM is carried out once a month for all other stretches except in stretches from Kannauj to Kanpur and Allahabad to Tarighat wherein it has been made intermittent twice a month. Survey of river for review of monitoring locations has also been carried out. The performance of sewage treatment plants is an integral part of water quality monitoring.

The water quality data along with performance data of STP is compiled and published/periodicity of bulletin as water quality bulletin biannually.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

STATE GOVERNMENTS

A. UTTARANCHAL (RISHIKESH-HARDWAR)

Recommendation

The Committee in their examination of the delay in implementation of the GAP, have noticed the failure of Uttaranchal Government in achieving targets under GAP-II schemes. While acknowledging the fact that the creation of new Uttaranchal State and consequential shortage of Engineers in Uttaranchal Peyjal Nigam. was one of the hindrances in their activities, the Committee are of the view that much responsibility for this failure lies on Ministry of Environment & Forests' action of approving the PFRS of the towns included in GAP-II in the year 1996-97 based on the rates of the year 1993-94 and change of norms for treated effluent parameters in view of latest faecal coliform design parameter of the treated effluent fixed by the NRCD. The Committee deplore the insensitive reaction of the Ministry of Environment & Forests to the genuine problems faced by a newly created State. The Committee are displeased to find that even if the State Government has been putting up efforts in ensuring optimum utilization of the 3 STPs constructed under GAP-I & II at Hardwar, Rishikesh and Swargashram holy pilgrim centers frequently by lakhs of people, these STPs are being overloaded due to excess generation of sewage and therefore need to be upgraded. The Committee are particularly anguished to note the fact that the Union Government had let lakhs of devotees dip in highly polluted waters of the Ganga at Rishikesh by not releasing funds for schemes submitted under special assistance from the Government of India for pollution abatement works required to be done for on going "Ardh Kumbh".

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1, Para 15.19 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Every effort is being made to sanction the DPRs of core schemes in Uttaranchal. The costs of DPRS of eleven schemes submitted by the Uttaranchal Government are much above the CCEA's approved cost. For speedy sanction of these schemes the State Government was advised to bear the excess project cost *i.e.* above the CCEA's approved cost. State Government has not submitted any commitment in this regard and instead requested to sanction the schemes by utilizing the intra and inter town savings which is under consideration of the Ministry. As per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance, such savings can only be utilized once the firm savings of a project have been established, when the project is completed or is nearing completion.

Further as per the decision of NRCS in March 2001, new schemes can be considered on 70:30 funding pattern. Accordingly, State Government has been asked to provide commitment to bear 30% of project cost for the new schemes of Hardwar-Rishikesh. The commitment of Uttaranchal Government is awaited.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

B. HARYANA

Recommendation

The Committee observe that overall, the implementation of GAP is far more satisfactory in Haryana than any other States. The Committee find that, against the target of treating 323 MLD of sewage under GAP, YAP under GAP-II to be precise, the achievement as of March 2000 and March 2003 were 293 and 306.50 MLD respectively. The Committee observe that better result might have been achieved in the State had the Government of India not accord approval of DPRs of STPs in six additional towns as late as 10/2000. Furthermore, the Committee find that Government of India have held up the work of construction of balance 50% of sewer at Palwal for want of approval of revised DPR. The delay of approval of DPRs by Ministry of Environment & Forests has become such a chronic feature that although the State Government had submitted all the DPRs complete in all respects within the time, NRCDD delayed in approving them, with some of them pending since September, 1999.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.24 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The DPR submitted for I&D Palwal was approved by NRCDD in August 1997 and work started immediately thereafter. However, Govt. of Haryana submitted revised DPR in September 1999 on the ground that the scope of work enlarged by including one more sector of HUDA (Haryana Urban Development Authority) in the proposal. This indicated poor foresight on the part of Govt. of Haryana. The ground water table was found at much higher level than anticipated afterwards. It was due to poor analysis of available data on the part of Govt. of Haryana. The last reason for submitting revised DPR was increase in cost of material. The Government of Haryana has explained the reason for increase in cost of material. The revised DPR submitted by Govt. of Haryana has been pending with NRCDD due to lack of information. First, the Govt. of Haryana was requested to reduce the revised cost estimates, which they did. Second, the design of civil structure was got checked from Roorkee. Third, the rise in ground water table was also verified by NRCDD. Besides saving from one town was not allowed to be used in other town as per NRCDD rules. Due to above mentioned reasons the revised DPR approval got delayed. All the information has since been received and the revised DPR is under process in NRCDD for approval of competent authority. There was no delay by NRCDD for processing other DPRs of Haryana.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCDD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee find that out of target of constructing 12 STPs for treated 306.5 MLD capacity in between May 1996 to November 1997, Haryana Government could

complete only 8 STPs of 226 MLD by March 2000, the delay of which according to NRCD in August, 1999, was due to non-release of matching share during the year 1997-98 by the State. The Committee however find this reply untenable as the implementing agency had surplus unspent funds ranging between Rs. 20.17 crore and Rs. 27 crore during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 and also in view of the submission of the State Government that in 1997-98 they spent Rs. 46.10 crore which was the earlier year's balance, much more than combined amount of the Central Government releases *i.e.* Rs. 25.85 crore. The Committee observe that most of the delay in implementation of the scheme in the State was on account of non-availability of funds following Government of India's practice of releasing funds towards the end.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.26 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The funds are provided to the State Govt./implementing agencies as per the requirement of the State Govts. during a particular quarter of the year. These requirements against each scheme are examined in the Ministry and after taking financial and administrative approval, the funds are released to the State Govt./implementing agencies. The release of funds is based on examination of the utilization certificates/demands submitted by the State Govt./implementing agencies. In case, if the funds were not fully utilized, then the future release of funds from the Ministry is adjusted in further release. Some amount is always required with the implementing agencies for smooth implementation of the project.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M.No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

C. DELHI

Recommendation

The Committee have been informed that sewage estimates are based on population and water supply rates, with the sewage generation taken as 80% of the water supplied. Though NRCD found the criterion flawed and fixed its own criterion of actual flow of drains at the outfalls to estimates the generation of sewage in the town in the GAP-II. But Committee have noted that the NRCD had no mechanism to evaluate and check the estimations of sewage by the States. It was found that the sewage estimation of 70 mld in NOIDA Town of Uttar Pradesh was incorrect as it did not include the sewage of Shahdara drain, which discharges 404 mld sewage in the river Yamuna at Okhla Barrage in Uttar Pradesh. The Committee were informed that Shahdara drain was not included in the proposals of NOIDA because, its sewage discharges generated from Delhi. The Committee desire that Delhi Government should take up the treating of Shahdara drain sewage waste and other drainage systems falling in Yamuna River at different places in and around Delhi on top priority basis so that the waters of Yamuna could be treated to the bathing level as has been envisaged in GAP-II. Delhi being a fastest growing city in terms of

population, new STPs should be set up keeping in view the next 30 years demand of sewage disposal in respective areas of Delhi.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.28 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

According to the Master Plan of Delhi for the year 2011, the demand for water supply in 2011 will be 919 MGD, against which 806 MGD of sewage is expected to generate. With this sewage projection, STPs treatment capacity of 806 MGD will be required.

Presently, Delhi has an installed treatment capacity of 512.4 MGD. Out of which actual utilization/treatment of sewage is 340.7 MGD, Delhi Govt./DJB is planning to increase the installed capacity up to 805.4 MGD in the year 2011 which serves the purpose up to the year 2021. It includes the projects under YAP-II which is to be launched by the NRCD, MoEF.

In order to reduce the pollution load through Shahdara drain entering into the River Yamuna, the following steps have been taken by the DJB/Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

- Sewage treatment plant installed for treating 20 MGD waste water at Yamuna Vihar.
- Installation of a regulator at Chilla, with Sewage Pumping Station and a Sewage Treatment Plant of 45 MGD capacity at Kondli is proposed.
- To enhance the treatment capacity, desilting of Trunk Sewer No. 4 & 5 in Shahdara has been completed. With completion of this work, an additional treatment capacity of 14 MGD can be achieved at Kondli STP.

With regard to the Najafgarh drain, 3 STPs on the tributaries of Najafgarh drain namely Palam Drain, Ring Road Drain and Daryai Nalla are proposed to construct. As informed by the DBJ, these drains have been identified on basis of availability of land to set up STPs. According to DJB, in rest of the tributaries either the flow is too less or there is no availability of land on the mouth of these drains to put up STP.

Three numbers of additional sewage treatment plants are also proposed to tackle the pollution load, discharging directly into the river Yamuna are as follows:—

STP at Barapulla Drain, 20 MGD capacity

STP at Delhi Gate, 15 MGD capacity

STP at Civil Mill Drain, 5 MGD capacity

The details of expansion of capacities at various location in Delhi is indicated in Table-I

TABLE-I**LOCATION-WISE EXISTING AND PROPOSED TREATMENT CAPACITIES OF STPs—DELHI**

Sl.No.	Location	Existing Installed Treatment Capacity in MGD	Proposed Treatment Capacity (MGD) by 2011**
1	2	3	4
1.	Okhla	140	30
2.	Keshopur	72	-
3.	Coronation Pillar	40	10
4.	Rithala	80	-
5.	Kondli	45	45*
6.	Vasant Kunj	5	-
7.	Yamuna Vihar	20	25
8.	Ghotorni	5	-
9.	Pappan Kala	20	20
10.	Narela	10	40
11.	Najafgarh	5	-
12.	Mehrauli	5	-
13.	Timarpur	6	-
14.	Delhi Gate	2.2	15
15.	Sen Nursing Home	2.2	-
16.	Rohini	15	40
17.	Nilothi	40	30
18.	Barapulla Nallah	-	20
19.	Delhi Contonment Area	-	8
Total		512.4	293

* Tenders are under evaluation.

** The proposed treatment capacity will be sufficient to meet the requirement in the year 2021 as there is no plan to augment the water supply after 2011.

Also, about 91 Kms of truck sewers are proposed to rehabilitate/desilting so as to increase the utilization capacity of the existing STPs. With the desilting and rehabilitation of these sewers, an additional treatment capacity of 115 MGD is targeted to be achieved by 2011 as follows:

Drainage area	Capacities
Coronation pillar drainage area	(5 MGD)
Shadhara drainage area	(14 MGD)
Rithala drainage area	(35 MGD)
Okhla drainage area	(11 MGD)
Keshopur drainage area	(35 MGD)
Outer Delhi drainage area	(15 MGD)
Total	115 MGD

As per the Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organization (CPHEEO) Manual by the Ministry of Urban Development, the capacities for treatment plant should be optimally designed and should follow the modular approach to ensure full utilization of assets and to avoid additional expenditure. The thirty year designed period may however be modified in regard to certain components of the project depending on their useful life or the facility for carrying out extensions when required and rate of interest, so that expenditure ahead of its utilization is avoided.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are dismayed to note that even though Uttar Pradesh Government had agreed to send a detailed report on the reasons for irregular diversion of funds of Rs. 36 crore to the PAC, no such report had been submitted to the Committee so far.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.30 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

UP State Govt. has informed that there has been no diversion of Government of India funds in Ganga Action Plan, as can be seen from the table below giving the year-wise funds released by Government of India and the expenditure incurred:

Year	(Rs. in crores)				
	Funds released by GoI		Expenditure incurred		Available balance funds at the end of year (3-5)
	During year	Cumulative	During year	Cumulative	
1993-94	10.69	10.69	0.00	0.00	10.69
1994-95	2.35	13.04	5.63	5.63	7.41
1995-96	6.27	19.31	4.61	10.24	9.07
1996-97	18.30	37.61	16.60	26.84	10.77
1997-98	53.10	90.71	32.80	59.64	31.07
1998-99	53.50	144.21	74.03	133.67	10.54
1999-00	67.28	211.49	67.23	200.90	10.59
2000-01	36.91 *	248.00	25.68	226.58	21.42
2001-02	49.73	297.73	61.36	287.94	9.79
2002-03	36.79	334.52	35.77	323.71	10.81
Total	334.52	334.52	323.71	323.71	10.81

* Total funds released by NRCD in the year 2000-01 were Rs. 40.65 crore, of which Rs. 4.14 crore were transferred for towns of the newly created Uttaranchal State.

However, as per UP State Govt. State share of Rs. 35.611 crore under GAP-II was utilized for O&M of assets created under GAP-I due to unavoidable reasons, which has been recouped by the State Government *vide* following GOs:

1.	704/9-5-03/79 Sa/2002-TC-1, dated 28.3.2003	Rs. 1187.00 lakhs
2.	2908/9-5-03/79 Sa/2002-TC dated 9.1.2004	Rs. 1187.05 lakhs
3.	1432/9-5-2004/79 Sa/2002-TC dated 24.6.2004	Rs. 1187.05 lakhs
	Total:	Rs. 3561.10 lakhs

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD, dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee have taken a very serious view of the fact that Bihar Government has violated the NRCD guidelines on construction of community toilets in 9 towns namely Chhapra, Patna, Hazipur, Soneput, Mokama Barauni, Buxar, Munger, Bhagalpur and Sultanganj built with a cost of Rs. 1.09 crore. The toilets were built in the campuses of Government/semi-Government/Private institutions instead of at places which, contribute sewage pollution to the river. The reply of the Government is that in the absence of toilets facilities, people go for open defecation and the wastes so generated ultimately reach River Ganga through open drains. The argument is not at all tenable and the State Government cannot allow the open drainage directly leading to the River Ganga, more so when the guidelines are clear that the STPs should be set up at major drainage systems and no untreated sewage-waste should be allowed to pollute the Gange directly. It is a clear violation of GAP guidelines and the funds should not be allowed to be misused any more and the funds already spent, should be adjusted against sanctions that may be made for other schemes in future.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.39 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The Govt. of Bihar has stated that the NRCD guideline on construction of Community Toilets in 9 towns have not been violated since it was done as per availability of land and funds. LCS schemes were completed in those towns. Monthly Progress reports were sent to NRCD regularly by the BRJP and officials of NRCD also visited the constructed LCS sites in each town at that time.

The Govt. of Bihar has also stated that the recommendations of the Committee have been noted for strict compliance in future.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to note that selection of towns in the State were

carried out in a questionable manner. The Committee are surprised to find the exclusion of Uluberia with BOD of 43.07 mg/l of waste water when 8 towns with BOD levels below 3 mg/l, the only parameter for selecting towns, were approved by the NRCD in West Bengal. The Committee find that the State Government's had even violated their own adapted parameters for selection of towns with 30 mg/l BOD of waste water.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.41 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It may be mentioned that generally the BOD levels in the river Ganga at Uluberia are below 3 mg/l due to the tidal effect in this stretch, thus it does not violate the criteria recommended by the Expenditure Finance Committee, that State might not include towns with BOD (Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand) less than 3 milligram per litre downstream of the river.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to note that the NRCD had not sanctioned any STP under the GAP-II as West Bengal Government did not confirm the availability of land. The Committee observe that the State Government had not taken a serious approach to address this issue as a result of which the construction of 30 mld STP at South Suburban East in Calcutta work remained incomplete till March 2000. The Committee also take a serious note of the construction of the Metkal and Bangur STPs, which are not originally included under GAP schemes. Taking a cue from the Ministry of Environment & Forests and as well as State Government's submission, the Committee are of the view that since the treated effluents from the STPs have been taken to a nearby canal, that is Bagjola Canal, the same untreated sewage could have been discharged into that canal and hence there was no need for diverting GAP funds.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.43 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

NRCD has so far sanctioned 15 schemes of STP for the treatment of 77.48 mld of sewage under GAP-II in West Bengal. However, the schemes could not be initiated in time in some towns of West Bengal due to the problems faced in the acquisition of land. The State Government has been asked to expedite the acquisition of land in the problem towns through a better institutional arrangement.

The construction of 30 mld STP at South suburban East in Kolkata has since been completed and is working satisfactorily.

Regarding the construction of Metkal and Bangur STPs it may be mentioned that KMDA constructed Metkal and Bangur STPs in towns Baranagar- Kamarhati and Cossipur-Chitpur at total cost of Rs. 26.46 crore in March, 1994 and December, 1998 respectively. It may be mentioned that before setting up STPs of 40 mld and 45 mld capacity respectively in these towns, the waste water of these areas flowed into the River Ganga.

However, the respective land on which the STPs are constructed, are located far away from Ganga, as no other suitable land was available nearby. Transportation of treated effluent back to Ganga would have resulted in huge expenditure. Considering this it was decided to discharge the treated sewage of Baranagar-Kamarhati town into the adjoining water channel of Udaipur Canal, which is connected with Bagjola Canal. Similarly, treated sewage from Cossipore- Chitpore is discharged into the adjoining Bagjola Canal. The Bagjola Canal then joins river Bidyadhari and flows into Bay of Bengal. The overall effect of these two STPs has been to reduce pollution load on Ganga. Therefore, the use of GAP funds for the construction of two STPs at Baranagar-Kamarhati and Cossipur-Chitpur may not be considered inappropriate.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Recommendation

The Committee called for evidence of Chief Secretaries of State Governments of Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal to have an appraisal of the GAP-I & II scheme's implementation, with due permission of Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha. However, to the astonishment of Committee none of the Chief Secretaries turned up and only the Secretaries of concerned department attended the sitting of the Committee. But in case of Bihar, neither Chief Secretary nor any State Government representative turned up and nor any difficulty explained to the Committee. The Chief Secretary of Bihar did not even respond to the queries raised by the Committee. The Committee strongly deplore the attitude of State Government official and particularly of Bihar Government and recommend that responsibility should be fixed on the erring officials of the State Government.

[Sl.No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.44 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Pertains to respective State Govts. the recommendations of the Committee have been forwarded to State Govts. for taking necessary action.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012\1\2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS TO WHICH REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation

The Committee made on the spot study visits to a number of places in various States and found that the pace of developing infrastructure to control river water pollution was very slow and the money released was either not commensurate with the requisite facilities or have been diverted for some other purposes and the work remained standstill or incomplete. The GAP-I which was to be completed by March 1990 has been extended till March, 2000 when it was declared complete, and GAP-II which was to be completed in 2001 was extended till December 2008, which clearly reflects the extremely slow knee jerk pace of development work being done for the last 18 years under GAP-I and II. Phase I of the Plan is not yet fully complete, even after delay of over 13 years. It speaks volumes of the inefficiency and lack of foresight on the part of the implementing agencies, viz. Central, State Governments and contracted agencies.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-1 Para 15.2 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

In Bihar under GAP-I, 45 schemes were sanctioned by the NRCD. However, there was delay in completion of GAP-I works in the State due to delay in acquisition of land for pumping stations, STPs and litigation etc. This resulted in extension of completion. Till March 2000, 43 projects had been completed and the remaining two projects of sewage treatment plants at Patna and Munger were incomplete since a long time due to contractual disputes, litigation etc. The Central Government has released funds against sanctioned cost of all the schemes including that for balance works and closed the scheme as on March 2000. Balance works are to be completed by the Govt. of Bihar and any excess in cost due to price escalation on account of time over-run is to be borne by them. For completing these two projects STP Patna and STP Munger, the Govt. of Bihar has released a sum of Rs. 193.50 Lakh during the year 2003-2004. As per the commitment of the State Govt. the works are expected to be completed by December, 2004.

The reasons for delay in the implementation of the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I are:

- (i) Lack of experience with the State implementing agencies, delay in land acquisition, litigations and Court cases, contractual disputes and diversion of funds by the State Governments.

- (ii) Poor operation and maintenance of the assets created under the 'Ganga Action Plan' Phase-I.
- (iii) Erratic and poor availability of electricity for operating assets like pumping stations, sewage treatment plants and electric crematoria.

Under GAP-II, the NRCD has sanctioned 20 schemes till date, on the basis of DPRs received from the Govt. of Bihar. The State Govt. has reported that, out of these, 16 schemes have been completed and the position of remaining four schemes are as follows:

- (a) The scheme of RFD at Danapur is to be completed in April 2004.
- (b) The scheme of LCS at Sahebganj has been transferred to the Govt. of Jharkhand for execution.
- (c) The work of Electric Crematoria at Danapur will be started after receiving revised sanction order of NRCD. (The State Govt. is to provide the commitment to bear O&M cost of the revised cost estimate of the scheme for consideration and processing the case in the NRCD. The State Govt. is being requested for the same since 19.8.2002 along with several reminders.)
- (d) The work of one LCS unit at Buxar is stopped due to stay order of Hon'ble High Court.

The expenditure incurred on these schemes is Rs. 292.68 Lakh till March, 2004.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M.No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD, dated 30/11/2004]

Recommendation

The Committee find that while on one hand, States have complained of lack of funds being a main reason for delay and failure to achieve the target of schemes, on the other many of the implementing agencies have failed to even spend the money and fair amount is left unutilized. The Committee are surprised to note many instances of financial mismanagement by the State level implementing agencies, such as diversion of funds of the tune of Rs. 36.07 crores to unauthorized activities, incorrect reporting to the tune of Rs. 6.75 crores, parking of funds by Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad in its own personal account amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore and unutilized funds with the implementing agencies to the tune of Rs. 72.62 crore, etc. The Committee feel that there are serious shortcomings in financial management of funds earmarked for various schemes under GAP at the level of States as well as NRCD. This has resulted in development of laxity in the working of various implementing agencies of the respective State Governments. The Committee are of the view that the apt formula for success in rectifying the functioning of GAP is the willingness to introduce reasonable user charges, which make the scheme financially viable. Even then the Committee are of the firm believe that no amount of additional resources will rejuvenate the GAP until the system stops tolerating the officials who do not perform. This, nonetheless entails amelioration in governance through improved performance and accountability through public participation. The Committee endorse the proposal to introduce

"beneficiaries pay" and "polluters pay" principles and other collective fine system to bear the cost of river cleaning programmes. Further provisions may be made to accept donations from willing contributors to boost the resources of GAP. To help male ever delicate financial condition of GAP schemes viable, the Committee urge the Ministry of Environment & Forests to streamline the mechanism of earning revenues by utilizing the manure rich treated sewage water and other byproducts etc. for irrigation purposes on payment basis.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para15.12 of 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

It has been intimated by the State Govlernment of West Bengal that released funds under GAP have been fully and properly utilized within the stipulated time schedule State Government is also taking steps to introduce user's charges for water supply and sewerage system to bear the partial cost of Ganga River Action Plan. Revenue is being earned by rearing fish, selling manure and treated sewage for irrigation purpose. Suggestions of accepting donations from willing contributors are also under consideration of the State Government.

State Government of West Bengal has intimated that they are exploring the possibility of leasing out the ponds for pisci culture at Chandarnagar, Bhatpara and Teetagarh. Scheme is also being worked out to sell the manure generated at the Howrah, Baranagar and Kamarhati Sewage Treatment Plants.

As per the information received from the BRJP, an amount of Rs. 86.08 Lakh was diverted by the BRJP during the year 1986-89 for disbursement of salary to their staff which were deputed for implementation of Ganga Action Plan schemes. Receipt of the funds for this purpose from the State Govt. at the end of the financial years and that too being the lesser than the required amount necessitated the BRJP for this diversion of funds for disbursement of salary to their staff to avoid disruption of the implementation & dissatisfaction of the staff. As per the BRJP, all of diverted amount has been recouped.

Regarding parking of funds by the BRJP in its own personal account amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore, the BRJP has intimated that they received the amount of Rs. 1.17 crore from the Government of Bihar on following dates:

31.3.96	Rs. 22.00 Lakh
23.7.96 (for Land Acquisition)	Rs. 15.00 Lakh
31.3.97	Rs. 71.00 Lakh
31.3.96	Rs. 09.00 Lakh

Rs. 117.00 Lakh

This amount of Rs. 1.17 crore was received by the BRJP from the State Government under its Plan/Non-Plan head. The account of Plan/Non-Plan head is in the State Bank of India, Sachivalaya Branch, which belongs to the treasury. This amount was

deposited by the BRJP in their account of the State Bank of India so that it could not be lapsed.

The State Govt. has intimated that, to generate revenue with the intention of self-sustainable O&M of the GAP schemes, following steps have been taken up:

- (1) Auction of fish ponds—Fish ponds at STP Pahari (Southern Zone), Patna and STP, Bhagalpur have been auctioned for 3 years.
- (2) Sale of Sludge—Sale of sludge from Beur and Saidpur STPs Patna is being finalized through an open tendering process. Sludge produced from the digester of activated sludge treatment has very high manure quality. It can be utilized for growing crops in place of artificial fertilizer.
- (3) User charges—User charges proposal is under serious consideration of the State Govt. for implementation.
- (4) Biogas utilization—A proposal for utilizing the gas produced at Beur STP has been prepared and it will be finalized very soon.
- (5) Utilisation of treated sewage water and other by-produced etc. for irrigation purpose on payment basis is being prepared.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

Further, the Committee do not buy the argument of the Ministry that delay in the implementation of GAP has been due to its being the first of its kind of project in the country, for not only delays had been experienced in GAP-I but also in the case of GAP-II and its components like YAP, GOAP & Damodar Action Plans; rather they are of the view that with no clear-cut standards or basis or yardstick or parameter for fixing responsibilities in GAP provisions, a multiple of irregularities have cropped up in the operation of GAP. A peculiarity the Committee had come across during their examination of the subject is that in spite of the lacunae and shortcomings being pointed out by expert reviews and the Ministry's assessment and when the Ministry themselves were aware of the solutions, no significant remedial action has been initiated till date. The Committee observe that no adequate attention is being given to the urgency that has been demanded by GAP, thereby compromising the health of about 40 per cent of population of India living in the Ganga Basin. As a matter of fact, a study by a team of environmentalist from the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and India have, in a World Bank sponsored study, concluded that in spite of the massive Rs. 1500 crore plan launched in the 80s to clean up the Ganga, the pollution levels in the mighty river continue to be alarmingly high and are contributing to about 9 to 12 per cent of the total disease burden in Uttar Pradesh. The Committee find that provisions/mechanism of the scheme as a system of anticipating coming events and planning responses in advance have failed which nevertheless has led the Committee to observe that GAP has become un-coordinated and directionless amalgam of different department/agencies despite existence of various Committees like NRCA, Steering Committee, Monitoring Committee etc.

The Committee therefore urge the Ministry to reconstitute NRCA as an autonomous body like National River Linking Project.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.8 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The World Bank Sponsored study on the 'State of Environment Report and Action Plan for Uttar Pradesh' utilized a 'Water Quality Index' developed by National Sanitation Foundation of the United States which is not widely accepted as it is subjective, does not provide used based risk and has other limitations. The study does not attribute the disease burden in Uttar Pradesh to the water quality of river Ganga alone.

In contrast to this, an R&D study to evaluate the efficacy of schemes taken up under Ganga Action Plan in the towns of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and nabadwip (West Bengal) on the health of the people directly dependent on Ganga water revealed a decreasing trend in the incidence of water borne diseases. However, the prevalence of helminthic infection, skin disease and diahorrea was observed in case of sewage farm workers handling treated sewage.

The study was carried out by NEERI, Nagpur and All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Calcutta.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

The Committee also express serious concern over the issue of dumping of dead bodies/animal carcasses and consequential worst pollution caused by such a practice. They are of the opinion that no worthwhile efforts have been initiated so far for optimum operationalisation of the already established electric crematoria at Hardwar to prevent such pollution. In this context the Committee do not share the view that modern crematoria set up have not been used by the people due to their faith and belief in the traditional manner of cremation. In their view, adequate public awareness was required for the use of modern crematoria and the popular awareness of people varies from city to city and changes with the passage of time. The Committee, therefore, also stress the need for setting up improvised wood crematoria in Hardwar to prevent this environmentally challenging phenomenon of letting dead bodies/carcasses polluting the holy river.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.23 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

Necessary action in this regard is being initiated by the State Government.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dt. 30-11-2004]

Recommendation

During their study visit, as an unpleasant experience, the Committee caught sight of many non-cremated dead bodies freely floating in the river waters giving a distasteful, spectacle to the visitors coming from far and wide. The Committee were apprised that due to religious significance of the city, many cremations were taking place on the bank of the river which was a major cause of pollution. The Committee observe that this is because of ineffective public awareness campaign being initiated by any of the civic authorities to dissuade people from doing so. The Committee would like the Ministry of Environment & Forests and agencies concerned in the State to come out with a concrete plan for an awareness campaign, even with the help of law enforcing agencies and religious seers, if necessary, to inculcate a scientific temper in the people, along with religious point of view so that people do not become a compulsive partner in polluting a river they were as 'holy'.

[Sl. No. XV Appendix-I Para 15.35 of 62nd Report of PAC
(13th Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

UP State Govt. have informed that Superintendent of Police has already been instructed to take necessary action to stop throwing of non-cremated dead bodies into the rivers.

[Ministry of Environment & Forests, O.M. No. H-11012/1/2004-NRCD,
dated 30-11-2004]

CHAPTER V

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT
HAVE FURNISHED INTERIM REPLIES

-NIL-

NEW DELHI;
March, 2006

Phalguna 1927(Saka)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. No.	Para No.	Ministry/Department	Observations/Recommendations
1	2	3	4
1.	10	Environment & Forests	<p>The Committee had adversely commented upon the slow pace of developing infrastructure to control pollution in Ganga River. GAP-I, to be accomplished by March, 1990 was yet to be completed. The position regarding GAP-II was equally bad as this scheme, which was to be completed in 2001, was extended till December, 2008. Consequently, the Committee had deplored the inefficiency and lack of foresight on the part of the implementing agencies, viz. Central, State Governments and contracted agencies. The Committee are not convinced by the arguments put forth by the Ministry that the delay in GAP-I was due to the lack of experience of the State implementing agencies, delay in land acquisition, litigations and Court cases, contractual disputes, diversion of funds by the State Governments besides poor operation and maintenance of the assets created under the 'Ganga Action Plan' Phase-I and poor availability of electricity for operating assets like pumping stations, sewage treatment plants and electric crematoria. The reasons cited by the Ministry are not such that they could not have been anticipated and tackled promptly & timely. The Committee would also like to point out that instead of intimating the status of performance of all the concerned State Governments, the Ministry have provided the figures for Bihar only. This is nothing but casual manner in which the Ministry have chosen to reply to the specific recommendation of the Committee which is highly regrettable.</p>

1	2	3	4
2.	11	Environment & Forests	<p>However, from a reply of the Ministry to another recommendation in the Original Report, the Committee find that in GAP-II, barring Delhi, 13 out of 90 schemes were incomplete in Haryana, 32 out of 195 schemes were incomplete in Uttar Pradesh, 75 out of 92 schemes were incomplete in West Bengal, 6 out of 18 schemes were incomplete in Bihar, 19 out of 29 schemes were incomplete in Uttaranchal and 4 out of 6 schemes were incomplete in Jharkhand as on June 2004. Thus, 149 schemes in total were still incomplete. The Committee are constrained to point out that the Ministry have furnished the updated position regarding implementation of schemes in the State of Bihar only. The Committee had expected the Ministry to furnish a comprehensive State-wise reply providing reasons for the overall delay in GAP-II with an objective analysis of the shortcomings/negligence of the implementing agencies, which was not done. They have also not cared to apprise the Committee about the reasons for not furnishing the complete and proper reply. The Committee take a serious view of the matter and desire that the Ministry should have furnished complete reply to all the specific points raised in their recommendation. Insofar as speedy completion of the remaining projects of GAP-II in all the States is concerned, Committee feel that the Government must make a study to assess the actual progress of the plan and take suitable measures in coordination with concerned State Governments urgently to accelerate the pace of work because the present situation, if left unattended, would continue to deteriorate further, causing irreparable loss to the entire Ganga river-system.</p>
3	17	Environment & Forests	<p>The Committee, in their Original Report, had brought to the notice of the Ministry of Environment & Forests the financial mismanagement by the State level implementing agencies, such as diversion of funds to unauthorized activities, incorrect reporting, parking of funds in personal account of Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP) and untutilized funds</p>

1	2	3	4
			<p>with the implementing agencies, etc. It was observed that serious shortcomings in financial management of the funds were resulting into laxity in the working of various implementing agencies of the respective State Governments. In response to these observations the Ministry have forwarded the replies received from only two States viz. West Bengal and Bihar in this regard. The Ministry are silent over the financial irregularities in other States, for example the diversion of funds in Uttar Pradesh, as noticed by the Committee in their Original Report. From the reply furnished by the Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), the Committee infer that they have tried to justify the diversion of funds amounting to Rs. 86.08 lakh for disbursement of salary to their staff on the plea that it was done to avoid disruption of the implementation and dissatisfaction of the staff. As regards parking of funds amounting to Rs. 1.17 crore in their account, the Ministry have taken the stand that this amount was deposited by the BRJP in their account of the State Bank of India so that it could not be lapsed. The Committee are distressed to note that instead of furnishing plausible explanation for financial mismanagement, the Ministry have merely forwarded the State Government's reply which also seem to be unconvincing as much as that does not address the issues of diversion of funds, incorrect reporting, parking of fund and unutilized funds in totality. The Committee feel that Instead of simply forwarding the replies submitted by a couple of States, the Ministry should have accorded adequate seriousness to an important issue like financial mismanagement by the implementing agencies and spelt out the measures taken by them to rectify the situation. The Committee had expected the Ministry to furnish a critical analysis of utilization of funds by each concerned State. What is surprising is the fact that there were serious shortcomings in financial management of the funds earmarked</p>

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			for various schemes under GAP not only at the level of States but at NRCD also. They, therefore, desire that the Ministry should take suitable remedial steps and fix responsibility in order to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.
4.	18	Environment & Forests	The Committee had also desired the Ministry to generate additional resources by way of introducing user charges, 'beneficiaries pay' and 'polluters pay' principle along with other collective fine system, accepting donations from willing contributors and earning revenues by utilizing the manure rich treated sewage water and other byproducts etc. for irrigation purposes on payment basis. The Ministry, in their Action Taken Note, have reproduced the replies received from West Bengal and Bihar State Governments narrating the efforts made by them in this regard, for instance, auction of fish ponds sale of sludge, biogas utilization etc. The Committee, however, are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry as it does not specify in concrete terms the quantum of the positive results achieved in generating additional revenue by virtue of the efforts made by the States. They would like the Ministry to furnish the details of the amount earned by each state as additional revenue through the various aforesaid measures and as to how they are being utilized.
5.	21	-do-	While disagreeing with the argument of the Ministry that delay in the implementation of GAP was attributed to its being the first of its kind of project in the country, the Committee in their earlier report had pointed out that delays were experienced not only in GAP-I, but also in the case of GAP-II and its components like YAP, GoAP & Damodar Action Plans. Expressing their concern on the irregularities that had cropped up in the operation of GAP due to absence of clear-cut criteria for fixing responsibilities in GAP provisions, the Committee had found that no significant remedial action was initiated by the Ministry in spite of being made aware of the lacunae and shortcomings by expert reviews. The

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6.	22	Environment & Forests	<p>Committee are disappointed to note from the Action Taken Note that the Ministry have not indicated any steps that have been taken with regard to the observation made by them with a view to curb overall delays, minimise irregularities and to implement GAP so as to attain intended goals without further loss of time. The Ministry have chosen to remain silent which reflect their lackadaisical approach in the entire matter.</p> <p>The Committee had also pointed out that a World Bank sponsored study had concluded that in spite of the massive Rs. 1500 crore plan launched in the 80s to clean up the Ganga, its pollution levels continued to be alarmingly high and were contributing to about 9 to 12 per cent of the total disease burden in Uttar Pradesh. The Committee had found that there were lack of adequate attention and anticipation of coming events and advance planning. They had, therefore, observed that the GAP had become un-coordinated and directionless amalgam of different departments/agencies, and had urged the Ministry to reconstitute NRCA as an autonomous body like the National River Linking Project. Surprisingly, the Ministry, in their Action Taken Note, have chosen to challenge the findings of the World Bank sponsored study by calling it 'subjective' and 'gripped by other limitations'. According to them the study does not attribute the disease burden in Uttar Pradesh to water quality of river Ganga alone. On the other hand they have sought to bring forth an R&D study report relating to the schemes taken up under Ganga Action Plan in the towns of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Nabadwip (West Bengal), that has revealed a decreasing trend in the incidence of water borne diseases there. However, no facts and figures in this regard have been furnished. The Committee find no sustainable reason for the Ministry's reluctance in accepting that pollution level in the Ganga River are by far the biggest contributor in harbouring water borne diseases among the population residing on its banks. The Committee feel that the Ministry have</p>

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			<p>tried to divert their attention from the core issue of the need for efficient and co-ordinated working of different departments/agencies related to the 'Ganga Action Plan' . As Gap seems to have become un-coordinated and directionless amalgam of different department/agencies, the Committee would like to reiterate that the Ministry should immediately take action to constitute the NRCA as an autonomous body like National River Linking Project.</p>
7.	25	Environment & Forests	<p>Expressing grave concern over the throwing of dead bodies/carcasses in Ganga river, which they had witnessed for themselves, the Committee, in their Original Report, had specifically urged the concerned authorities to make efforts for optimum operationalisation of the already established electric crematoria at Hardwar and also for setting up improvised wood crematoria there in order to prevent the public from cremating bodies on the banks of the River. Further, the Committee had emphasized the need for enhancing public awareness for the use of modern crematoria. The Ministry have merely stated <i>vide</i> their Action Taken note that necessary action in this regard is being initiated by the State Government. The Committee are disappointed with the reply given by the Ministry which is too vague and devoid of any details. The Ministry have avoided providing specific information on the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government so far and difficulties, if any, being faced by them. In view of this, the Committee are doubtful whether any Concrete action has been taken by the state Government at all in this regard. The Committee, therefore, strongly deplore the casual approach shown by the Ministry to a very specific recommendation of the Committee relating to a serious issue. The Committee have been left with no choice but to reiterate their earlier recommendation made in this regard. They expect a detailed, complete, clear and specific reply from the Ministry.</p>

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8.	28	Environment & Forests	<p>The Committee had, in their original Report, raised a very pertinent issue of initiating a public awareness campaign with the help of law enforcing agencies and religious seers, if necessary, to inculcate a scientific temper in the people, so that the horrendous practice of throwing non-cremated dead bodies in the river could be checked. In their reply, the Ministry have furnished the information received from U.P. State Government that the Superintendent of police has already been instructed to take necessary action to stop this practice. The Committee feel that this is yet another example of an extremely casual approach on the part of the Government to a very serious matter. They have gathered the impression that the Government have not only taken their recommendation very lightly, but have also sought to shirk their responsibility of planning and carrying out a mass awareness campaign to make public realise the importance of keeping the river clean. The Committee strongly deplore the careless attitude of the Government for having treated a vexed question of raising mass awareness campaign against throwing non-cremate dead bodies in the holy river as a simple law and order problem, which can be handled by a Superintendent of Police. The Committee therefore, desire that the Ministry should assign due priority to such an important and far reaching issue concerning certain conventional beliefs and ensure that the State Government takes it up at the highest level with utmost seriousness. The Committee also desire that the action taken in this regard may be intimated to them in due course.</p>

PART II

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH SITTING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (2005-06) HELD ON 14TH MARCH, 2006

The Committee sat from 1600 hrs. to 1630 hrs. on 14th March, 2006 in Room No "51" (Chairman's Chamber) Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Khagen Das
3. Shri R.L. Jalappa
4. Dr. R. Senthil
5. Dr. Ramlakhan Singh
6. Shri K.V. Thangka Balu

Rajya Sabha

7. Shri R. K. Dhawan
8. Shri V. Narayanasamy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri A. Mukhopadhyay — *Joint Secretary*
3. Shri Ashok Sarin — *Director*
4. Shri M.K. Madhusudhan — *Under Secretary*

Officers of the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

1. Shri Jayanti Prasad — *Principal Director (INDT-Cus)*
2. Shri R.P. Singh — *Principal Director (Scientific Departments)*

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration the following draft Reports and approved the same:

- (i) Draft Report on Paragraph No. 3.7 of the Report of C&AG of India for the

year ended March 2004, No. 10 of 2005 (Indirect Taxes-Customs) relating to "Non-disposal of Uncleared/Unclaimed Imported Cargo in ICDs/CFSs", and

- (ii) Draft Report on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 62nd Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha) relating to "Ganga Action Plan."

3. The Committee authorised the Chairman to finalise these Reports in the light of verbal and consequential changes arising out of factual verification by Audit or otherwise and present the same to the House.

4. The Chairman apprised the Members of the work done by the Committee. He stated that 27 Reports—12 Original and 15 Action Taken were finalised and presented within a short period of a year and a half during the two terms of 14th Lok Sabha *i.e.* September 2004 to April 2005 and May 2005 to April 2006. While referring to the qualitative and substantial work done by the Committee, he observed that this could not have been possible but for the active participation and interest evinced by all the Members.

5. The Committee also placed on record their appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered by the Officers of the C&AG and the commendable work performed by the Committee Secretariat in the examination of various subjects and finalisation of the Reports thereon.

The Committee then adjourned.