

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1024  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013  
RESIGNATION BY NGRBA MEMBERS  
Namdhari Shri Inder Singh

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

- (a) whether some prominent member of National Ganga River Basin Authority had resigned from the organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any progress has been made in respect of clean Ganga expedition; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Shri Rajendra Singh, Shri Ravi Chopra and Prof. R.H. Siddiqui, non-official expert members of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) had conveyed their resignation on 10.03.2012 in support of the demands of Prof. G.D. Agarwal (now Swami Gyan Swarup Sanand) on issues concerning conservation of river Ganga. However, their resignation was not accepted by the Chairman and they attended the 3rd meeting of NGRBA held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 17.04.2012.

(c) & (d) The NGRBA in its first meeting decided that under Mission Clean Ganga that by 2020 no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents will flow into the river. To achieve this, a World Bank assisted NGRBA programme for eight years at an estimated cost of Rs. 7000 Crores has been approved for conservation and restoration of water quality of the river Ganga. Since inception of the NGRBA programme, 53 Schemes on development of sewer networks, sewage treatment plants, electric crematoria, common community toilets, development of river fronts etc. in 43 towns in the States of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs. 2600 Crores. A amount of Rs 805.17 Crores has been released so far, both by the Central & State Government.