

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3342
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013
UNIVERSAL HERITAGE STATUS TO GANGA RIVER
Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to declare river Ganga as an Universal heritage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be declared?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Recognizing the unique geographical, historical, socio-cultural and economic importance ascribed to river Ganga, the Government of India has given Ganga a status of National River through a notification under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 constituting the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA). However, there is no proposal with the Government to declare river Ganga as Universal Heritage.