GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:395 ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013 CHECK ON DUMPING DEBRIS INTO YAMUNA RIVER Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has issued a show-cause notice to the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and other organisations for dumping debris into the Yamuna river causing pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the DMRC/other organisations thereto;

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the steps taken to check the dumping of waste material/debris in the Yamuna river;and

(e) the steps taken to make the Yamuna a clean river?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 395 to be answered on Monday, the 22nd April, 2013 on "Check on Dumping Debris into Yamuna River" by Shri Sanjay Bhoi and Shri Anand Prakash Paranjpe

(a) & (b) An application No. 6/2012 is before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) pertaining to removal of debris, solid waste, construction material etc. lying along the banks of River Yamuna. The Hon'ble NGT vide its order dated 31st January, 28th February 2013 issued show cause notice to the Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and other organizations for dumping debris on the banks of river Yamuna.

(c) & (d) As per the affidavit filed by the Managing Director, DMRC before the Hon'ble NGT, DMRC has taken steps to clear and transport all the debris lying along the bed of river Yamuna belonging to DMRC to identified locations at Sarai Kale Khan and land opposite to Shastri Park Metro Station. Further, in compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT on 31-01-2013, Delhi Development Authority, Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department, North Delhi Municipal Corporation and other concerned authorities have also taken steps for removal of debris from the banks of river Yamuna under their jurisdiction.

(e) Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the problem of pollution of river Yamuna by providing financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana under Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) in a phased manner since 1993. The works taken up under YAP relate to sewerage/interception and diversion of drains, sewage treatment plants (STPs), low cost sanitation/community toilet complexes, , etc. Under Phase-I and II of YAP, a total of 296 schemes, including 40 sewage treatment plants, have been completed in 21 towns of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. Sewage treatment capacity of 902.25 million litres per day (mld) has been created under these two phases of YAP. Further, the YAP Phase - III project for Delhi has been approved by the Ministry in December, 2011 at an estimated cost of Rs 1656 crores.

In addition, State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocations, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including setting up of sewage treatment plants, in various towns under other Central sector schemes like JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) and UIDSSMT (Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns) of Ministry of Urban Development.