

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3247
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
FUNDS FOR CLEANING OF RIVER GANGA
Pradhan Shri Amarnath

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

- (a) whether World Bank and other international agencies propose to provide funds for cleaning the river Ganga;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the funds provided or being provided by each of them; and
- (c) the Action Plan drawn up by the Government for the effective utilisation of the funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c) Preliminary consultations have been started for seeking World Bank support for the activities of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA), which was set up on 20th February, 2009 for conservation of river Ganga. A proposal for availing Project Preparation Facility (PPF) assistance of US \$ 2.96 million from the World Bank has been approved for preparation of the detailed project report.

Under the ongoing National River Conservation Plan, a loan assistance of 11.184 billion yen has been extended by the Japan International Cooperation Agency, for taking up pollution abatement works on river Ganga at Varanasi. The proposed works include construction of sewage treatment plant of 140 million litres per day capacity, sewerage system, community toilet complexes, dhobi ghats, improvement of bathing ghats, public participation & awareness and institutional development of urban local body.