

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2913
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
EXPENDITURE UNDER GANGA AND YAMUNA ACTION PLAN
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated and expenditure incurred under Ganga Action Plan and Yamuna Action Plan respectively since its inception;
- (b) the salient features of both the schemes along with the achievement made so far;
- (c) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government on issues of rising pollution in these rivers; and
- (d) the mechanism evolved to monitor the shortcomings of the plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) & (b) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) was launched in 1985 with the objectives to improve the water quality of river Ganga and later the Plan was expanded for other major rivers including river Yamuna under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). Various pollution abatement schemes taken up under the Plan, inter-alia, include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and river front development.

Under two phases of GAP, 524 schemes have been completed and a treatment capacity of 1092 million litres per day (mld) has been established. An amount of Rs. 974 crore has been released by Centre and a total expenditure of Rs. 939 crore has so far been incurred under GAP.

Similarly, in two phases of Yamuna Action Plan (YAP), 297 schemes have been completed and a sewage treatment capacity of 942 mld has been established. Since inception of YAP, Rs. 1070 crore has been released by Centre and a total expenditure of Rs. 1511 crore has so far been incurred under YAP.

(c) & (d) The Government has initiated an exercise for revamping the river conservation strategy to promote a holistic and integrated river basin approach. The Central Government has set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) on 20.2.2009 as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach with the river basin as the unit of planning and has also provided for a Standing Committee and an Empowered Steering Committee. Under the NGRBA programme, 61 schemes in 46 towns in Ganga States have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs. 3546.65 crore. Against this, Rs. 1080.27 crore has been released by the Centre including the matching share of the States.

With regards to river Yamuna, the Phase-III project of Yamuna Action Plan for Delhi has been approved at a cost of Rs 1656 crore. The project includes works for rehabilitation/modernization of 7 STPs with total treatment capacity of 814 mld at Okhla, Kondli and Rithala in Delhi and construction of a new STP (in place of old STP) of 136 mld capacity at Okhla. An amount of Rs. 48.20 crore has been released under YAP-III.