

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:264  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014  
GANGA REJUVENATION  
Patole Shri Nanabhau Falgunrao

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Union Government to give a blue print of strategy to clean river Ganga;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;
- (c) whether a group of professionals from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have been associated to finalise the plan to depollute the river Ganga, if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said group is likely to submit its report;
- (d) whether some foreign countries have offered financial assistance to rejuvenate the river Ganga and if so, the details thereof including the financial assistance offered by them; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to restore Ganga its pristine glory?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(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.264 to be answered on Thursday, the 11th December, 2014 on 'Ganga Rejuvenation' raised by Shri Nana Patole.

(a)&(b) Yes, Madam. Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 3rd September, 2014 directed to "detail the stages through which the projects relating to cleaning of Ganga would progress and the estimated time-frame within which such stage wise progress will be achieved". The plan for Ganga Rejuvenation drawn by the Government based on the recommendations of the Group of Secretaries submitted on 28th August, 2014 and other inputs providing for a 'Short-term' (3 years), 'Medium-term' (5 years) and 'Long-term' (10 years and more) action plan, incorporating the projects already sanctioned under NGRBA programme was submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) Yes, Madam. The Consortium of 7 IITs is preparing the Ganga River Basin Management Plan. An interim report along with 36 thematic reports have been submitted so far by the consortium of IITs and the first version of the plan is scheduled to be submitted by them soon after December 2014.

(d) Yes, Madam. A number of countries have shown interest in participating in Ganga Rejuvenation. Further collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is under consideration, in addition to the existing project with JICA assistance costing Rs 496.9 Crore.

(e) Union Budget 2014-15 has set up "Namami Gange", an integrated Ganga Conservation mission with an outlay of Rs. 2037 Crore for rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries. The mandate of Ministry of Water Resources has been enlarged to include River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The action plan for Ganga rejuvenation has been developed by convergence of different ministries through a Group of Secretaries and stakeholder consultations through "Ganga Manthan".

The Government has also reconstituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) on 29th September, 2014 incorporating the provision of a Vice-Chairperson with appropriate delegation. The meeting of the reconstituted NGRBA was conducted on 27th October, 2014.

The specific action points have been identified for key thrust areas for restoring wholesomeness of Ganga by ensuring Aviralta, Nirmalta and protection & beautification of river front, conservation of aquatic life and afforestation to restore its liveliness and grandeur.