

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2189

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014

GANGA MANTHAN

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Antony Shri Anto ;Birla Shri Om;Charitra Shri Ram;Chautala Shri Dushyant;De(Nag) Dr. (Smt.) Ratna;Gaddigoudar Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda;Hegde Shri Anant Kumar Dattatreya;Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Mahto Dr. Banshilal;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran;Patil Shri A.T. (Nana);Roy Prof. Saugata;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Simha Shri Prathap;Singh Shri Sunil Kumar;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

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

- (a) whether an event 'Ganga-Manthan' has been recently organised by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the participants at the event along with the decisions taken, schemes announced and financial allocation made for the next five years;
- (c) whether any feasibility study of schemes and programmes aimed at rejuvenation of Ganga and overall development of rivers across the country has been conducted by the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action taken thereon including the scheme laid down for setting up of toilets on both sides of rivers; and
- (e) the details of the waste drains flowing into Ganga river along with the proposals received for rejuvenation of other holy rivers such as Pampa, Hasdev, Pamba, etc. including action taken thereupon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION;  
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TEXTILES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE). (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)&(b) A national level consultation in the name of 'Ganga Manthan' was organized on 7th of July, 2014 at New Delhi to facilitate interaction with various stakeholders including policy makers and implementers, academicians, environmentalists, spiritual leaders and NGOs. The event was organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), a registered society under Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), implementing the river Ganga pollution abatement programme under National Ganga River Basin Authority

(NGRBA). It was aimed to provide a platform for various stakeholders to come together to discuss the issues and possible solutions to the challenging task of Ganga Rejuvenation. The views expressed by the stakeholders participating in 'Ganga Manthan' would be helpful for the preparation of a road map for the preparation of a comprehensive plan to rejuvenate the River Ganga. The programme being consultative in nature, question regarding decisions taken, schemes announced and financial allocation made for the next five years, does not arise.

(c) A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for 10 years has been signed in 2010 by MoEF & a consortium of 7 IITs for preparation of a comprehensive River Basin Management Plan for Ganga. Besides the IITs, National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee, Banaras Hindu University, various universities and research institutes are also involved in Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP). Interim report has been submitted, which is circulated to different ministries, departments and other stakeholders for comments. For rivers other than Ganga, National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) in MoEF, which is entrusted with implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) jointly with the State Governments on a cost-sharing basis, has identified polluted stretches of 40 major rivers in 121 towns spread over 19 States in the country, in which pollution abatement activities are being implemented under NRCP.

(d) Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) have informed that pollution abatement of rivers, including building of toilets etc., is to be undertaken by the State Government/ local bodies concerned, as per their priorities. The role of the Central Government is promotional and to supplement the efforts of the State Govt.

(e) Central Pollution Control Board has inventorised 144 drains discharging wastewater into river Ganga directly. The total wastewater discharge from these drains is 6475 million litres per day

(mld) and carrying total Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) load of 426 tonnes/ day. The details of river cleaning activities presently being implemented under NRCP is placed at Annexure-I. Regarding river Pamba (Kerala), MoEF have informed that a project for pollution abatement has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 18.45 crore. The works sanctioned under the project pertain to interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation, bathing ghats, solid waste management and public awareness & participation. The works of low- cost sanitation, bathing ghats, solid waste management and public awareness programme have been completed. Govt. of India has released an amount of Rs. 2.78 crore so far for implementation of the project. However, for other rivers

namely Pampa and Hasdev, no proposal for abatement of pollution has been received by MoEF. These rivers are also not included in the list of 150 polluted river stretches identified by Central Pollution Control Board in 2010.