

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 13.07.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**YAMUNA ACTION PLAN .**

892

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL

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

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- (a) whether it is a fact that Yamuna Action Plan I and II were complete failures, as far as cleaning up the polluted river Yamuna was concerned when Rs. 2,800 crore had reportedly been spent on the cleaning of river ;
- (b) if so, whether Government has been able so far to find out whether it would practically be possible to clean up the river before the Commonwealth Games, 2010; and
- (c) if not, who is responsible for inordinate delay of this project and how much time is likely to be taken for cleaning up of the river ?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c ) The water quality of Yamuna has not shown the desired improvement owing to large gap between the demand and availability of sewage treatment capacity and lack of fresh water in the river. Implementation of the river pollution abatement works is an ongoing and collective effort of Central and State Governments.

Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) was launched by the Central Government in 1993 to supplement the efforts of State Governments in addressing the problem of pollution of river Yamuna. The works taken up under YAP 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. The Plan covers 21 towns of three States of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. Under the Plan so far an expenditure of Rs. 872.15 crore has been incurred and sewage treatment capacity of 753.25 million litres per day has been created.

Besides the YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has also taken up sewerage and sewage treatment works on Yamuna under other schemes. To ensure that only treated effluent is discharged to the river Yamuna, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has prepared schemes for laying of interceptor sewers along three major drains namely Najafgarh, Shahdara and Supplementary, augmentation of sewage treatment capacity, interception of drains, rehabilitation of trunk sewers, laying of sewerage system in unsewered colonies and rural areas and desilting of peripheral/internal sewers. As per information provided by DJB, these schemes are likely to be completed in a period of 4 years.