

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
POLLUTION IN YAMUNA .

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Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia

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

- (a) how far the Yamuna Action Plan for the abatement of pollution in river Yamuna has succeeded in its objectives and if not, by when it would be achieved;
- (b) the details of expenditure incurred;
- (c) whether Delhi accounts for about 79 per cent of total wastewater generated from major towns located along the banks of river Yamuna;
- (d) whether groundwater quality monitored by CPCB at selected locations of Delhi area indicates that water was not potable; and
- (e) whether Yamuna is among the most polluted rivers of the world?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) The Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for abatement of pollution in river Yamuna is being implemented by the Central and State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi with assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). YAP, Phase-I was implemented from April, 1993, to February, 2003. The second phase of YAP commenced in December, 2004. The total approved cost of both the phases is Rs.1339 crores. An expenditure of Rs. 908.89 crore has been incurred so far under both the phases. A total of 276 schemes have been completed in 21 towns of the three States and sewage treatment capacity of 753.25 million litres per day has been created till now under both the phases of YAP. The works completed 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. In addition to YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has also taken up pollution abatement works for river Yamuna from other resources.

(c) to (e) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the stretch of river Yamuna between Wazirabad and Okhla in Delhi is severely polluted. It has been reported that the volume of wastewater generated from Delhi accounts for about 79 per cent of the total wastewater generated from major towns located along the banks of river Yamuna. The groundwater quality monitored by CPCB at selected locations in Delhi has indicated that at one location during the pre-monsoon period, the concentration of toxic metals exceeded the drinking water quality standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). However, the groundwater quality improves in the post monsoon period due to recharge.