

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 710

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

PROGRESS UNDER GANGA BANK TREE PLANTATION CAMPAIGN IN JHARKHAND

710 # SMT. MAHUA MAJI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) details of progress made, area covered, funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Ganga Bank Tree Plantation Campaign (2016-21) in the State of Jharkhand;
- (b) out of ₹347 crores, amount allocated to Jharkhand and utilized thereof, the measures taken for efficient use of funds and achievement of goals;
- (c) impact of tree plantation on groundwater recharging and preventing erosion in the State;
- (d) the steps taken to enhance the success of the campaign and ensure participation of local community for sustainable results; and
- (e) plan to identify the areas of Jharkhand affected by changes in the flow of Ganga and the resolution thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Under the Namami Gange Programme, in Jharkhand (Sahibganj district only), a total of 884 ha. plantation has been carried out since the year 2016-17 for which an amount of Rs. 27.81 crore has been provided by NMCG to State Forest Department, Jharkhand.

(c) A midterm evaluation of the plantations done under the Namami Gange programme was carried out in Sahibganj district of Jharkhand during the year 2021-2022 through IIFM Bhopal. The evaluation study indicates that the overall survival percentage and growth of the plants in the Sahibganj Forest Division, Jharkhand was found to be satisfactory. No scientific study has been conducted to see the impact of tree plantation on ground water recharge and soil erosion in Sahibganj district, Jharkhand.

(d) To enhance the success of the Plantation Campaign and ensure sustainable outcomes through active community participation, several strategic measures have been implemented:

- Ganga Doots and Ganga Praharis: Local volunteers engaged in plantation drives and conservation efforts.
- Plantation drives carried out with participation of Local Elected Representatives, civil society members and members of District Ganga Committee

- School-Based Initiatives: Programs like “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” carried out
- Public-Private Collaboration: Joint efforts by government agencies, NGOs, and private entities ensured better resource allocation and efficiency.

(e) A Committee comprising members from the State Government of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and concerned Central Government Departments, has been constituted by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to undertake a joint detailed technical study for an integrated plan to combat the threat of erosion posed by Ganga Padma river in select stretches.
