

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2409
ANSWERED ON 16.03.2017

CLEANING OF GANGA AND YAMUNA RIVER

2409. SHRI SULTAN AHMED

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any schemes recently to clean Ganga and Yamuna rivers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including achievements made under the Namami Gange project;
- (c) the reasons for continued growth in water pollution despite various ongoing schemes;
- (d) the quantum of funds spent on various projects/schemes pertaining to Ganga and Yamuna rivers cleaning during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise along with proportional results achieved therefrom; and
- (e) the details of implementation bottlenecks observed till date and the action taken in this regard so far?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Government has launched Namami Gange Programme. Namami Gange programme consists of 2 major components, namely, (i) Component A : Comprise of all the ongoing programme (including existing projects sanctioned under NGRBA programme and (ii) Component B : Comprise of new initiatives for abatement of pollution in river Ganga as well as Yamuna.

The Namami Gange is under implementation covering short term, medium term and long term activities.

Under short term action plan, certain interventions have been visualized under the heading of "Entry Level Activities" which covers development of ghats, crematoria and river surface cleaning activities.

Under Medium term action plan, existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) will be upgraded and new STPs and ETPs will be established with an aim to stop untreated sewage and industrial waste falling in the river. Besides, rural sanitation has been taken up in the villages in the banks of river Ganga.

The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of river Ganga, maintaining the ecological and geological integrity of the river.

As on 31st January 2017, under Namami Gange Programme, 143 projects have sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs 10,485.62 Crores covering the various components such as sewerage infrastructure, river front development, ghats, crematoria, water quality monitoring stations, rural sanitation, afforestation, bio-diversity etc. Out of these, 38 projects have been completed.

(c) There is no trend observed in water quality to suggest continued growth of water pollution in River Ganga. However, non-availability of sufficient treatment capacity for sewage generated from towns/cities abutting River Ganga and untreated discharges from industrial source are reasons among other towards contribution of water pollution in River Ganga.

(d) The details of the funds released to the states during the last three years are given below :

States	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Grand Total
Bihar	91.14		120.23	211.37
Jharkhand	6.26	0.97	27.83	35.06
UP	92.30	74.58	147.58	314.46
Uttarakhand	17.05	4.26	30.26	51.57
West Bengal	48.91	73.85	185.79	308.55
Haryana			30	30
Delhi			4.96	4.96
Madhya Pradesh			3.39	3.39

(e) During the implementation of projects bottlenecks like delay in tendering process, retendering, non-availability of land, legal issues, natural calamities like flood and earthquakes, delay in permission from local authorities on road cutting/crossing etc. are noticed. The issues are resolved with continuous coordination with the state government at various levels, field visits and quarterly monitoring. Further in order to ensure effective implementation and timely completion of projects, project management consultants/supervision consultants are being appointed by the state government.
