

Ganga Safai Abhiyan

†3247. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned a new project namely 'Ganga Safai Abhiyan' with an estimated cost of Rs. 15,000 crores and has started that also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken at the level of Central and State Governments to implement that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) on 20th February, 2009. In the first meeting of the NGRBA held on 5th October, 2009 it was resolved that under 'Mission Clean Ganga', it will be ensured that no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluent flows into Ganga by the year 2020. Currently, sewage treatment capacity of 1025 million litres per day (mld) has been created under Ganga Action Plan against about 3000 mld being generated in the towns along Ganga. An estimated investment of Rs. 15,000 crore over the next 10 years will be required to create the necessary treatment and sewerage infrastructure, to be shared suitably between Centre and States. In the first phase, project proposals of around Rs. 1400 crores have been sanctioned under the NGRBA, which include sewer networks, sewage treatment plants and sewage pumping stations, electric crematoria, dhobi ghats, community toilets, development and beautification of river front, resuscitation of canals joining Ganga, public participation programme and awareness campaigns in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Uttarakhand.

New guidelines for noise pollution

3248. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new guidelines have been issued by Government to control noise pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government has taken to ensure the strict compliance of these guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Central Government has notified the amendments to Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 on 11th January, 2010. Through the said amendments, stress has been laid on making the 'night time' (between 10.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m.) less noisy and peaceful. Restrictions have been imposed on use of horns, sound

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.