

1980, for diversion of forest land for Orissa Power Generation Corporation and the National Thermal Power Corporation's coal mining project in Sundargarh district in Orissa.

- (c) Does not arise.

#### **Pollution in major rivers**

3609. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of contamination and pollution in various major rivers of the country;
- (b) the efforts of Government to clean these rivers and the results obtained, so far;
- (c) whether there is any major plan to clean river Ganga and Yamuna;
- (d) the money spent, so far, in the projects on both the rivers, year-wise;
- (e) whether there is any estimate regarding the year in which we would be able to have a clean Yamuna and Ganga; and
- (f) the number of villages in the country yet to get clean potable water supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring water quality of rivers at 980 locations covering 353 rivers in terms of Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Fecal Conforms. Based on BOD analysis, 150 polluting river stretches have been identified by CPCB. The river conservation programme started with the launching of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) in the year 1985 in the identified polluted stretches of the river Ganga. The Plan was expanded to include other major rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), which presently covers 38 rivers in 178 towns spread over 20 states. An expenditure of Rs.4085 crore has been incurred and Sewage treatment capacity of 4064 million litres per day (mild) has been created so far. Pollution abatement schemes undertaken include interception, diversion and treatment of sewage; low cost sanitation works on river banks; electric/improved wood crematoria etc.

For abatement of pollution of river Yamuna Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) is being implemented by the Government with assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency in the three states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi in a phased manner. Besides YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has taken up sewerage and sewage treatment works under other schemes to fully address the pollution load being discharged into Yamuna.

Year-wise expenditure incurred under the Plan by the Central Government for pollution abatement works in Ganga and Yamuna is given in the Statement (See below).

The water quality in terms of BOD values for major rivers is reported to have improved as compared to the water quality before taking up pollution abatement works under NRCP, based on independent monitoring undertaken by reputed institutions. For example, in respect of water quality of the river Ganga, the BOD values in the year 2010 range between 1.48 to 5.51 mg./litre in major monitoring locations as compared to BOD values ranging between 1.7 to 15.5 mg./litre in 1986. However, the levels of bacterial contamination in terms of fecal coliform are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of locations along the river Ganga.

The water quality in the stretch of the river Yamuna from Tajewala to Palla in Haryana is found to be within the prescribed limits. However, the stretch of the river in the vicinity of Delhi (downstream of Wazirabad barrage to upstream of Okhla barrage) and in parts of Uttar Pradesh does not meet the standards in terms of BOD. 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.

The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in February, 2009 as an empowered authority for conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach with river basin as the unit of planning. The Authority has decided that under 'Mission Clean Ganga', it will be ensured that by year 2020, no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into Ganga.

Conservation of rivers is a collective effort of Central and State Governments. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in river conservation through the centrally sponsored NRCP. Creation of infrastructure for sewage management and disposal is also

being undertaken through other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under state schemes.

(f) As per the data provided by the States, with respect to rural drinking water supply, out of 16,61,058 rural habitations in the country, 344 habitations remain uncovered as on date. Further, 1,37,565 habitations are reported to have some sources with iron, fluoride, arsenic and other contaminants.

**Statement**

*Year-wise expenditure incurred by the Central Government  
for river Ganga and Yamuna*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Year	Name of River	
		Ganga	Yamuna
1	2	3	4
1	1985-86	611.00	Yamuna Action Plan
2	1986-87	2470.00	launched in 1993
3	1987-88	4192.00	
4	1988-89	5501.00	
5	1989-90	5733.00	
6	1990-91	5036.00	
7	1991-92	4781.00	
8	1992-93	5216.00	
9	1993-94	4430.00	998.00
10	1994-95	2476.53	830.80
11	1995-96	1267.90	1000.32
12	1996-97	1557.46	8450.10
13	1997-98	507.60	7722.59

1	2	3	4
14	1998-99	1300.00	7550.00
15	1999-2000	1718.29	7017.00
16	2000-01	1987.60	2434.50
17	2001-02	2848.00	13071.13
18	2002-03	4177.50	10076.00
19	2003-04	2835.50	50.00
20	2004-05	2946.00	530.00
21	2005-06	4906.72	1734.00
22	2006-07	4769.19	3617.20
23	2007-08	4800.06	2771.31
24	2008-09	5486.07	9998.45
25	2009-10	10395.62	10040.00
TOTAL		91950.04	87891.40

**Elephant deaths on track**

3610. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: .

(a) whether it is a fact that elephant deaths on the track has become a burning issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to avoid this situation in future especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Report of forty four elephant deaths in train accidents has been received from West Bengal; Assam, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Jharkhand since 2007-08. The accidents take place as the rail lines are passing through elephant habitats in these States. The issue has been taken up with the Ministry of Railways and mitigatory measures have been taken to prevent such accidents. No report of death of elephant in train accident has been received from Andhra Pradesh.