

(b) The Central Government by a Notification dated 20.02.2009, has set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) for effective abatement of pollution and conservation of river Ganga with the river basin as the unit of planning. During the last five years till March, 2014, 72 projects have been taken up an estimated cost of ₹ 4607.82 crores and an expenditure of ₹838.76 crores was reported by the State Governments and other implementing agencies.

(c) These projects are to create additional sewage treatment capacity of 586.43 million litres per day (MLD), out of which 123.00 MLD treatment capacity has been created so far.

(d) New initiatives under "Namami Gange" approaches Ganga Rejuvenation by consolidating the existing ongoing efforts and planning for integrated and comprehensive action plan. It also recognizes the multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary challenges of Ganga rejuvenation and need for collaborative action at different levels. While incorporating the existing projects in the action plan, the Ganga rejuvenation plan provides for 'Short-term' 'Medium-term' and 'Long-term' action plan for ensuring Aviral and Nirmal Ganga. The allocation of ₹ 2037 crores has been made for Namami Gange in the budget for 2014-15.

Plan for cleaning of Ganga

148. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the light of recent observations of Supreme Court on depolluting river Ganga, Government has drawn up any time-phased plan for cleaning of the river; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to restore Ganga to its pristine glory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The projects and activities under Ganga Rejuvenation plan include pollution abatement measures for different sources of pollution, river front development, Afforestation and conservation of aquatic life, Communication and public outreach, water quality monitoring and enforcement of standards and other policy initiatives for ensuring Aviral and Nirmal Ganga.