

(PIAS) project sanctioned under NGRBA programme, the CPCB has listed a total of 764 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs). So far, 727 GPIs have been inspected and action have been taken against 178 non-complying industries under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 by CPCB. Closure notices have been issued by CPCB to 48 GPIs.

Restoration of cleanliness of Yamuna banks

154. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Green Tribunal (NGT) had set up two committees for looking into the details of dumping of solid waste and construction debris into the Yamuna river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these committees have submitted their report on the status of river's cleanliness;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to restore the cleanliness of the river?

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

(b) On the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) on 31st January, 2014 and 1st February, 2014, a Committee under Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF and CC) was constituted to oversee the implementation of its order for removal of debris, solid waste, construction material etc. being dumped and lying on the banks of River Yamuna. On the directions of the Hon'ble NGT on 22nd July, 2014, MoEF and CC constituted a 3 member expert committee to analyse, examine and suggest steps for finalizing the Yamuna River Front Development Plan.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The main recommendations of the committee headed by the Secretary, MoEF and CC include different measures to be taken for restoration of the

river and its active floodplains as per the detailed report submitted by the committee. The 3 member expert committee recommended that the Yamuna River Front Development (YRFD) scheme within the active floodplains is untenable and should be replaced by a plan for restoration of the river and its floodplains.

(e) Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-III (YAP- III) has been approved for pollution abatement of river Yamuna at Delhi at an estimated cost of ₹ 1656 crore for rehabilitation of trunk sewers, upgradation/modernisation of existing treatment plants and creation of additional treatment capacity. Two other projects have also been taken up at an estimated cost of ₹ 217.87 crore for pollution abatement of Yamuna in Sonapat and Panipat in Haryana. Further, an interceptor sewer project is being implemented under Ministry of Urban development program at an estimated cost of ₹ 1357 crore to intercept sewage of major drains in Delhi from flowing into Yamuna. The new initiative of integrated Ganga Conservation Mission *i.e.* 'Namami Gange' would also be covering river Yamuna as a major tributary of river Ganga.

Planning for Development of Saraswati River

155. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any letters from Members of Parliament regarding development and rejuvenation of holy Saraswati river at Sidhpur, Gujarat;

(b) whether Government has any plan for development of river front on Saraswati river at Sidhpur on the basis of development of Sabarmati river front at Ahmedabad, Gujarat; and

(c) if not, whether Government is planning for development of Saraswati river at Sidhpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Gujarat have stated that as the river is not perennial, there is no plan for development of river front of Saraswati river at Sidhpur. However, water is made available in the river Saraswati during monsoon to facilitate holy bath on religious occasions as well as Groundwater recharge. In addition, the Tourism Department has constructed a holy Ghat on the bank of River Saraswati to enable the people to perform rituals.
