

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.
