

Cleaning of Ganga

1267. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is keen to clean river Ganga and to restore the glory of Ganga and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has made any observation in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereon; and
- (c) by when the project 'Clean Ganga' would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) Yes, Sir. Pollution abatement and cleaning of river Ganga is an ongoing and collaborative effort of the Central and State Governments. "Namami Gange", an Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission has been set up under NGRBA for rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries. Incorporating the existing projects under the NGRBA, the Ganga rejuvenation plan provides for 'Short-term' (3 years), 'Medium-term' (5 years) and 'Long-term' (10 years and more) action plan. The Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation have also drawn action plans under 'Swachh Bharat Mission' (Urban and Rural) to address the sanitation issues, which will minimise the domestic/ municipal pollution load in the rivers of the country.

(b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has made certain observations in some of the recent orders during the year 2014 and 2015 on:

- (i) Stage-wise developments for cleaning the river Ganga.
- (ii) Status of Ganga River Basin Management Plan prepared with the help of Consortium of Seven (7) IITs.
- (iii) Follow up action taken in relation to Bhagirathi ecological sensitive zone notification.
- (iv) Industrial pollution abatement.

Status on these have been submitted by the Government to the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) The NGRBA has resolved that by the year 2020 no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluent will be discharged into River Ganga.