

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) Government is considering to put some of the eligible components of AIBP scheme of MoWR, RD&GR under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY) umbrella scheme being formulated by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).

(b) and (c) Consultations with State Governments and other stake holders were undertaken during 'Jal Manthan' and other similar meetings organized by Ministry of Water Resources. Based on these consultations steps have been taken to simplify AIBP and enhance its effectiveness.

Cleaning of Ganga

1702. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU :
KUMARI SELJA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to clean the river Ganga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being initiated by Government in this regard and particularly to make the people take part in this drive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission – 'Namami Gange' has been launched in June, 2014 which approaches Ganga Rejuvenation based on lessons learnt and by consolidating the existing ongoing efforts and planning for integrated and comprehensive action plan for 'Short-term' (3 years), 'Medium-term' (5 years) and 'Long-term' (10 years and more). The projects and activities under this plan include pollution abatement measures for different sources of pollution and other policy initiatives. A report on "Ganga River Basin Management Plan – 2015" has been prepared and submitted by the consortium of 7 Indian Institute of Technology's (IITs) which has identified 7 thrust areas and 21 action points for the rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries.

Work has already been taken up in 118 identified towns located along the main stem of river Ganga and the State Project Management Groups (SPMGs) of the respective States have been requested to take up Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) on priority so that the sewage from these towns do not fall in to river Ganga.

(c) The Government had organized an event “Ganga Manthan” on 7th July, 2014 as a first step of involving the people as part of the Ganga Cleanliness drive. Ganga Manthan was a national dialogue with all stake holders from different spheres of life to express their views and ideas on various aspects to rejuvenate river Ganga. The participants in Ganga Manthan included Technocrats, Academicians, Public Representatives, Policy Makers, NGOs, Environmentalists and Spiritual Leaders. The Government is taking active steps to involve NGOs in its efforts for clean Ganga. The Government plans to hold several such meetings to make the Clean Ganga Programme a people’s initiative.

Directions for discharge of polluted water

†1703. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to issue directions to municipalities, urban bodies and industrial units situated on the banks of rivers to dispose of polluted water and sewage in order to clean Ganga;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has issued a notice on 23.03.2015 (Published in leading newspapers) to the 118 municipalities / urban local bodies and 687 industries in the Ganga river basin to furnish the action plans for construction/rehabilitation and/or upgradation of the sewage treatment plants (STPs), installation of requisite equipments/augmentation of the STPs by such municipalities/urban local bodies and Effluent Treatment Plants/Common Effluent Treatment Plant (ETPs/CETPs), zero liquid discharge/real time monitoring for the discharge of trade effluents for abatement of pollution by the industries, as the case may be, directly to the concerned SPMGs in the respective State within 15 days of the publication of the Notice (23.03.2015).

Further, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued directions to 11 Ganga Basin State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees *vide* letter No.B 190019/NGRBA/CPCB/2011-12 dated 05.02.2014 for directing the industries discharging effluents directly into River Ganga or its tributaries for installation of real time water quality monitoring systems to monitor critical parameters such as pH, TSS, COD, BOD, Chromium, Arsenic, Ammonia by March, 31, 2015, which has now been extended by 3 months *i.e.* to June, 30, 2015.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.