

Foreign help in cleaning Ganga

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

- (a) whether some foreign countries have offered their help for cleaning river Ganga in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how far India has availed of their help in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (c) Many countries such as England, Germany, Australia, Canada, Singapore, Israel, Netherlands, etc. have expressed interest to support Ganga Rejuvenation through knowledge/technology sharing, capacity building, research and development, sharing of experiences, expertise and best practices, etc. as well as providing financial assistance for cleaning of river Ganga. This Ministry is in continuous dialogue with the relevant organizations of these countries to facilitate a fruitful involvement of foreign countries in Ganga Rejuvenation.

Recently, an MOU has been signed between this Ministry and German International Cooperation (GIZ) Agency. Another MoU has been signed between the Governments of Australia and India in the field of water resources management. A shortterm project has been initiated by Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) for 'Drain Analysis and Water Quality Scorecards' since April, 2015. The project will be funded by Australian aid.

Cleaning of Ganga

†149. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned any project for cleaning of Ganga from Gangotri to Bay of Bengal;
- (b) if so, the names of institutions, which have been given work under this project and time-limit fixed for it;
- (c) the provision for expenses under this project; and
- (d) the details of works being undertaken under this project?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.