

of 426 TPD). Thus, 6299 MLD of sewage and sullage generated by the cities/towns located on the Ganga river basin contributes 70% of BOD load (295 Tons per day) into river Ganga. The wastewater reaches river Ganga through 144 drains directly and 13 drains through its tributaries river Kali-East and Ramganga.

Villages covered under Namami Gange Programme

133. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages covered under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) for effective management of solid and liquid waste for conservation of river Ganga; and

(b) the total amount earmarked for the said task under NGP?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI): (a) Cleaning of river Ganga and its tributaries is being undertaken by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD and GR) under the Namami Gange programme.

The various pollution abatement schemes such as effective management of solid and liquid waste in the ganga gram villages along with other activities to provide Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) at community and individual levels at identified locations, Installation of Crematoria (electric as well as wood based improved crematoria), River Front Development (RFD) including bathing ghats, Afforestation, protecting bio-diversity, and creating Public awareness and participation are planned in the five main stem Ganga States which would directly and indirectly benefit the 1651 gram panchayats located on the banks of river Ganga covering 5216 villages.

(b) Activities for making the villages open defecation free along with Solid and Liquid Management and IEC activities are being taken up through Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS). MoWR, RD and GR has a provision of ₹ 1750 crore for this under Namami Gange and has released ₹ 263 crore to MDWS for 2016-17.

Execution of Namami Gange Programme

134. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of States whose assistance is required by Government in execution of the Namami Gange Programme;

(b) the details of steps, if any, taken by this Government to seek the assistance of these States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI): (a) The Namami Gange Programme is currently being implemented in the five main stem Ganga States (Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal) and two other States *viz.*, Delhi and Haryana. Since matter related to water and pollution abatement falls in the preview of the State, it is natural that the cooperation and assistance from the States are necessary for successful implementation of the Namami Gange programme.

(b) State Project Management Groups (SPMGs)/Nodal Departments have been established in the concerned States and the proposals are received through these agencies and schemes are implemented through them.

Chief Ministers of the involved States are members of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA). High Level Task Force (HLTF) has been formed with Chief Secretaries from the State Government as members. Chief Secretaries of State Government are the members of Empowered Steering Committee (ESC).

Matters where States assistance is needed are taken up at these forums.

Also, regular meetings at Central Minister – Chief Minister of the concerned State and Secretary – Chief Secretary levels is also held.

To encourage participatory approach to the programme, participation from State Government, ULBs and Gram Panchayats various open programmes and workshops namely the Ganga Manthan, Swachh Ganga Sahbhagita and Swachh Ganga Gramin Sahbhagita have also been conducted.

Mass movement for water conservation and rain water harvesting

†135. 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 considering to call for mass movement for water conservation and rain water harvesting;

(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 (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Under the IEC Scheme of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation awareness on groundwater conservation,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.