

Against the estimated sewage generation of 2953 Million Litres per Day (MLD) from the towns along main stem of river Ganga, the sewage treatment capacity in the towns along Ganga has increased from 1305 MLD (2014) to 1822 MLD capacity. In addition to this, STP capacity of 3577 MLD is being created in Ganga basin.

Draft National River Ganga Bill, 2018

129. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the draft National River Ganga Bill, 2018, has proposed the setting up of an armed force "Ganga Protection Corps";

(b) if so, the powers allocated to armed personnels for offences and penalties punishable under the Ganga Act; and

(c) whether Government is planning to include in this draft the issues such as building barrages and diverting flow of the river, dredging to make way for inland water ways and hydroelectric projects that impact the flow and massive deforestation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Draft of "The National River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Bill 2018" provides for the constitution of Ganga Protection Corps as an armed forces of the union.

(b) The Ganga Protection Corps is proposed to be empowered to arrest or caused to be arrested for offence under the Act, and to take the person to the nearest police station. The Court would take cognizance of the offence on the basis of the complaint filed by the officers who are authorized under the proposed Act.

(c) The draft Act contemplates certain provisions conferring powers to the "National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga" [National Ganga Council] to arrange to carryout or caused to be carried out impact assessment of certain projects and activities which affect or are likely to affect the flow of water in river Ganga, such as building barrages, deforestation on hill slopes, hydroelectric projects etc.

Water stressed regions

130. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that availability of water in many regions of the country