

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:46

ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002

JAPANESE ASSISTANCE FOR CONTROL OF RIVER POLLUTION

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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether various rivers of the country are sustainably getting polluted;
- (b) if so, whether Japan has offered to provide assistance for making some rivers pollution free including the Ganga river;
- (c) if so, the details of master plan prepared by the Japan International Corporation Agency in this regard and the time by which the assistance programme is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) if not, the measures being taken by the Government to make the rivers pollution free ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (d) A number of rivers of the country are polluted. A scheme of National River Conservation Plan, which covers pollution abatement works in 153 towns along the polluted stretches of 28 rivers, including Ganga, spread over 17 States is under implementation. The pollution abatement works include activities such as sewerage, sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation, crematoria, afforestation, river front development and public participation.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency of the Government of Japan has recently agreed to provide technical assistance for taking up a study on `Water Quality Management Plan for river Ganga`. The objective of the study is to

- (i) formulate the Master Plan for water quality management for the Ganga basin concerning liquid waste, and
- (ii) formulate feasibility studies for high priority projects identified in the Master Plan focusing on four towns namely, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow. It will take two years to complete the study.