

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1047
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
AFFORESTATION ALONG RIVER BANKS
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL;RATNA SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided to launch a scheme under which ditches would be dug in the river bed and river banks would undergo afforestation in a big way in order to check pollution in the river Ganga;
- (b) if so, by when this scheme is going to be launched;
- (c) whether this scheme is a part of Ganga Action Plan;
- (d) the amount already spent on Ganga Action Plan and the amount earmarked for this new scheme so far; and
- (e) the details of works carried out, if any, under the scheme so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) to (e) No scheme has been launched so far by the Government under Ganga Action Plan to dig ditches in the river bed and have afforestation in a big way along the river banks to check the pollution of river Ganga. However, a small component of afforestation is being taken up in various towns under the Ganga Action Plan at an approved cost of Rs. 1.65 crore. The total amount released so far by the Central Government for implementation of Ganga Action Plan Phase-I & II in various towns along the river is Rs. 580.53 crore.