

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding making river Ganga pollution-free.

DR. RATNA DE (NAG) (HOOGHLY): The issue of making Ganga free of pollution is alive for the last 3 decades. Both Centre and State Government have made attempts to clear Ganga and make it pollution free. Laws too were changed. Penalties imposed. National Green Tribunal (NGT) came into being in 2010 to change the deteriorating environmental situation in the country. But the dream of making Ganga pollution free, is still waiting to be achieved or fulfilled. Huge sums of money running into crores of rupees were spent on clean Gange project, for decades. As per a report in the Times of India dated 15th July 2017, Rs. 7,000 crores were spent. As per the record during March 2017 National Mission of Clean Ganga Project has approved 26 projects with Rs. 2,154.28 crore. Discharge of inflammable effluents for industries go unnoticed. Even Public Sector Enterprises like BHEL pollute Ganga.

I would like to strongly urge the Government to look into the issue in the light of recent NGT order and Supreme Court directives and come out with an innovative way to address the issue of making Ganga clean, pollution free and save the environment from further decay and destruction.