**National Mission for Clean Ganga**

National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG) was registered as a society on 12th August 2011 under the Societies Registration Act 1860.It acted as implementation arm of National Ganga River Basin Authority(NGRBA) which was constituted under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA),1986. NGRBA has since been dissolved with effect from the 7th October 2016, consequent to constitution of National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga (referred as National Ganga Council) vide notification no. S.O. 3187(E) dt. 7th October 2016 under EPA 1986. >> (Amendment) Order, 2nd September 2019

The Act envisages five tier structure at national, state and district level to take measures for prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution in river Ganga and to ensure continuous adequate flow of water so as to rejuvenate the river Ganga as below;

1. National Ganga Council under chairmanship of Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.

2. Empowered Task Force (ETF) on river Ganga under chairmanship of Hon’ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti (Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation).

3. National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG).

4. State Ganga Committees and

5. District Ganga Committees in every specified district abutting river Ganga and its tributaries in the states.

NMCG has a two tier management structure and comprises of Governing Council and Executive Committee. Both of them are headed by Director General, NMCG. Executive Committee has been authorized to accord approval for all projects up to Rs.1000 crore. Similar to structure at national level, State Programme Management Groups (SPMGs) acts as implementing arm of State Ganga Committees. Thus the newly created structure attempts to bring all stakeholders on one platform to take a holistic approach towards the task of Ganga cleaning and rejuvenation.

The Director General(DG) of NMCG is a Additional Secretary in Government of India. For effective implementation of the projects under the overall supervision of NMCG, the State Level Program Management Groups (SPMGs) are, also headed by senior officers of the concerned States.

**Vision and key function:**

he Vision for Ganga Rejuvenation constitutes restoring the wholesomeness of the river defined in terms of ensuring “Aviral Dhara” (Continuous Flow”), “Nirmal Dhara”(“Unpolluted Flow”), Geologic and ecological integrity.

Key Functions

To achieve the objectives, NMCG shall carry out the following key functions namely:

(i) Implement the work programme of National Ganga River Basin Authority(NGRBA).

(ii) Implement the World Bank supported National Ganga River Basin Project.

(iii) Coordinate and oversee the implementation of projects sanctioned by Government of India under NGRBA.

(iv) Undertake any additional work or functions as may be assigned by MoWR,RD &GJ in the area of conservation of river Ganga.

(v) Make rules and regulations for the conduct of the affairs of the NMCG and add or amend, vary or rescind them from time to time.

(vi) Accept or to provide any grant of money, loan securities or property of any kind and to undertake and accept the management of any endowment trust, fund or donation not inconsistent with the objectives of NMCG.

(vii) Take all such action and to enter all such actions as may appear necessary or incidental for the achievements of the objectives of the NGRBA.

**Projects:**

**Namami Gange Programme**

★ ‘Namami Gange Programme’, is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as ‘Flagship Programme’ by the Union Government in June 2014 with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.

Its implementation has been divided into Entry-Level Activities (for immediate visible impact), Medium-Term Activities (to be implemented within 5 years of time frame) and Long-Term Activities (to be implemented within 10 years).

The key achievements under Namami Gange programme are:-

1. Creating Sewerage Treatment Capacity:- 48 sewage management projects are under implementation and 99 sewage projects have been completed in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, and Rajasthan. 27 sewage projects are under tendering and 8 new sewage projects launched in these states. Work is under construction for creating a sewerage capacity of 5658.37 (MLD).

2. Creating River-Front Development:- 71 Ghats/Crematoria projects for construction, modernization, and renovation of 270 Ghats/Crematoria and Kunds/Ponds have been initiated.

3. River Surface Cleaning:-River Surface cleaning for collection of floating solid waste from the surface of the Ghats and River and its disposal are afoot and pushed into service at 11 locations.

4. Bio-Diversity Conservation:- One of NMCG’s long-term visions for Ganga rejuvenation is to restore viable populations of all endemic and endangered biodiversity of the river, so that they occupy their full historical range and fulfil their role in maintaining the integrity of the Ganga river ecosystems. To address this, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Kolkata & Uttar Pradesh State Forest Department has been awarded projects to develop science - based aquatic species restoration plan for Ganga River by involving multiple stakeholders along with conservation & restoration of aquatic biodiversity.

As per the field research conducted by WII, high biodiversity areas have been identified in river Ganga for focused conservation action, rescue & rehabilitation centers have been established for the rescued aquatic biodiversity, cadre of volunteers (Ganga Praharis) have been developed and trained to support conservation actions in the field, floating interpretation centre “Ganga Tarini” and interpretation centre “Ganga Darpan” have been established for developing awareness on biodiversity conservation and Ganga rejuvenation, key ecosystem services of Ganga river have been identified and an assessment framework developed to strengthen the environmental services in the river basin.

CIFRI has carried out the assessment of fish and fisheries in the basin to record the available fish species and has mapped it in GIS platform to understand the status and distribution of fishes in Ganga. Tagging procedures has also been initiated to see the migration pattern of identified fish like Hilsa. CIFRI is also conducting ranching and awareness programmes at various locations in the river basin for conservation and restoration of Indian Major Carps (IMC) & Mahseer in Ganga.

Further, the Uttar Pradesh State Forest Department is implementing the ‘Expansion of conservation breeding program of freshwater turtles and Gharial at Kukrail Gharial Rehabilitation Centre, Lucknow’ which will help in revival and restoration of Gharials and turtles in the Ganga basin.

5. Afforestation:- One of the major components of Ganga rejuvenation is ‘forestry interventions’ to enhance the productivity and diversity of the forests in head water areas and all along the river and its tributaries. Accordingly, Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for afforestation in an area of 1,34,106 hectares in the Ganga river bank states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal at an estimated cost of Rs. 2293.73 Crores. The FRI DPR provides for taking up works under four major heads viz. Natural landscape, Agriculture landscape, Urban landscape and Conservation interventions.

The main purpose of the proposed forestry interventions is to contribute towards holistic conservation of river Ganga, including improving the flow in the river (Aviralta) by adopting a multi-pronged approach throughout the pre-defined Ganga riverscape. The project of “Forestry Interventions for Ganga” is being implemented by State Forest Departments of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal as per the FRI DPR since year 2016-17, for which NMCG is providing financial support to the respective State Forest Departments.

6. Public Awareness:- A series of activities such as events, workshops, seminars and conferences and numerous IEC activities were organized to make a strong pitch for public outreach and community participation in the programme. Various awareness activities through rallies, campaigns, exhibitions, shram daan, cleanliness drives, competitions, plantation drives and development and distribution of resource materials were organized and for wider publicity the mass mediums such as TV/Radio, print media advertisements, advertorials, featured articles and advertorials were published. Gange Theme song was released widely and played on digital media to enhance the visibility of the programme. NMCG ensured presence at Social Media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, You Tube etc.

7. Industrial Effluent Monitoring:- The number of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) in April, 2019 are 1072. Regulation and enforcement through regular and surprise inspections of GPIs is carried out for compliance verification against stipulated environmental norms. The GPIs are also inspected on annual basis for compliance verification of the pollution norms and process modification, wherever required through third party technical institutes. First round of inspection of GPIs by the third-party technical institutes has been carried out in 2017. Second round of inspection of GPIs has been completed in 2018. Out of 961 GPIs inspected in 2018, 636 are complying, 110 are non-complying and 215 are self-closed. Action has been taken against 110 non-complying GPIs and are issued closure directions under Section 5 of the E(P) Act. Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Stations (OCEMS) connectivity established to CPCB server in 885 out of 1072 GPIs.

8. Ganga Gram:- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) identified 1674 Gram Panchayats situated on the bank of River Ganga in 5 State (Uttarakhand,Uttar Pradesh,Bihar,Jharkhand,West Bengal). Rs. 578 Crores has been released to Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) for construction of toilets in 1674 Gram Panchayats of 5 Ganga Basin States. Out of the targeted 15, 27,105 units, MoDWS has completed construction of 8, 53,397 toilets. Consortium of 7 IITs has been engaged in the preparation of Ganga River basin Plan and 65 villages has been adopted by 13 IITs to develop as model villages. UNDP has been engaged as the executing agency for rural sanitation programme and to develop Jharkhand as a model State at an estimated cost of Rs. 127 Crore.

National Mission for Clean Ganga, endeavors to deploy best available knowledge and resources across the world for Ganga rejuvenation. Clean Ganga has been a perennial attraction for many international countries that have expertise in river rejuvenation. Countries such as Australia, United Kingdom, Germany, Finland, Israel etc. have shown interest in collaborating with India for Ganga rejuvenation. Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed with various Central Ministries viz.- Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Ayush, Ministry of Petroleum, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation and Ministry of Agriculture for synergizing the Government schemes.

**Varanasi**

Government of India, has approved the Namami Gange program as an integrated approach for effective abatement of pollution in river Ganga. As part of this and to ensure that no untreated domestic sewage flow into the river Ganga, various interventions are planned such as Interception & Diversion works and development & operation of Sewage Treatment Plants(STPs). Considering various development models in practice for the construction, operation and maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plants, Government of India has approved the Hybrid Annuity based Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode as one of the options for the development & operation of STPs. Under this model, private investor/developer will design, build, finance, operate and transfer the asset (STP) to the Project Executing Agency/Jal Nigam/Jal Sansthan/Urban Local body at the end of the Concession Period (say 15 years).

Varanasi is one of the world’s oldest cities. Varanasi is regarded as one of the seven holy cities of India which can provide Moksha. The earliest known archaeological evidence suggests that settlement around Varanasi in the Ganga valley began in the 11th or 12th century BC. Varanasi grew as an important industrial center, famous for its muslin and silk fabrics, perfumes, ivory works, and sculpture. Varanasi was also home to Parshva, the 23rd Jain Tirthankara and the earliest Varanasi or Banaras is one of the oldest cities in the world. It is situated on the bank of river Ganga spreading over 1535 sq.km area in the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is located between the confluences of river Ganga and Varuna and river Ganga and Assi rivulet.

**Mathura**

Development of a 20 MLD tertiary treatment plan at Trans Yamuna for supply of treated sewage water to IOCL refinery

Rehabilitation of pumping stations and associated infrastructure with the STPs

I&D work of total 20 numbers, and pipeline work of 17 kilometers

Operation and maintenance of the facilities for a period of 15 years.

Development / rehabilitation of STPs with a cumulative treatment capacity of 67 MLD

Development of a 30 MLD capacity STP at Masani

Rehabilitation of 6.8 MLD WSP STP at Masani

Rehabilitation of 14.5 MLD capacity WSP STP at Trans Yamuna

Rehabilitation of 16 MLD capacity UASB STP at Trans Yamuna

First ever integrated PPP project under HAM in the sewerage section in the country

Involves IOCL as strategic partner for reuse of treated sewage water.

20MLD of treated sewage water to be supplied to IOCL

Mathura, along with Vrindavan, has deep cultural significance for Indians.

Identified as a heritage city, under Government of India’s Heritage city development and Augmentation Scheme.

Located on the banks of River Yamuna and has a population of approximately 350,000

With many historic temples, the city hosts an average of 150,000 visitors daily.