



Six Mega Projects in Uttarakhand: Namami Gange Mission

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Why in News

The Prime Minister has inaugurated **six mega projects** in **Uttarakhand** under the **Namami Gange Mission**.

Key Points

- **Highlights:** These six mega projects of **Sewage Treatment Plants (STP)** are constructed at **Haridwar, Rishikesh, Muni ki Reti, Chorpani, and Badrinath**.
 - Jagjeetpur, Haridwar project also marks the completion of the **first** sewage project taken up on **hybrid annuity** mode on **public private partnership**.
Hybrid Annuity Model: The Government would provide upfront around **40%** of the project cost to the developer to start the work and the remaining 60% would be borne by the private party.
 - In **Muni ki Reti town, Chandreshwar Nagar** STP is the first **4 storied** Sewage Treatment Plant in the country where the limitation of land availability was converted into an opportunity.
- **Significance:**
 - All 30 STP projects (100%) are now complete in Uttarakhand for taking care of pollution from 17 Ganga towns near river Ganga, which is a landmark achievement.
 - The **Haridwar-Rishikesh zone** contributes about **80% wastewater load** into the River Ganga.

- **Namami Gange Programme:**

- **Namami Gange Programme** is an **Integrated Conservation Mission**, approved as a ‘Flagship Programme’ by the Union Government in **June 2014** to accomplish the **twin objectives** of effective abatement of **pollution** and **conservation and rejuvenation** of National River Ganga.
- It is being operated under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.
- The program is being implemented by the **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)**, and its state counterpart organizations i.e., State Program Management Groups (SPMGs).
 - NMCG is the implementation wing of **National Ganga Council** (set in 2016; which replaced the National Ganga River Basin Authority - NGRBA).
- It has a **Rs. 20,000-crore, centrally-funded**, non-lapsable corpus and consists of nearly 288 projects.
- **The main pillars of the programme are:**
 - Sewage Treatment Infrastructure & Industrial Effluent Monitoring
 - River-Front Development & River-Surface Cleaning
 - Bio-Diversity & Afforestation
 - Public Awareness

Other Activities at the Event

- **Ganga Avalokan:** It is the **first museum** inaugurated for **Ganga**.
 - The museum is dedicated to showcase the culture, biodiversity and rejuvenation activities done in Ganga river.
 - The museum is located at **Chandi Ghat**, Haridwar.
- **Rowing down the Ganges:** A book co-published by National Mission for Clean Ganga & **Wildlife Institute of India** is also launched.
- **The logo of Jal Jeevan Mission** and ‘**Margdarshika for Gram Panchayats and Paani Samitis under Jal Jeevan Mission**’ is also unveiled during the event.

Way Forward

- The government’s Namami Gange Programme has revitalised India’s efforts in rejuvenating the Ganga.
- It is important to build critical sewage infrastructure at pollution hotspots along the river Ganga and its tributaries as a first step in this direction.

Source: PIB