

Six Mega Projects in Uttarakhand: Namami Gange Mission

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 <u>National Mission for Clean Ganga</u> (NMCG), and its state counterpart organizations i.e., State Program Management Groups (SPMGs).
 - NMCG is the implementation wing of <u>National Ganga Council</u> (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 <u>Jal Jeevan Mission</u> and 'Margdarshika for Gram Panchayats and Paani Samitis under <u>Jal Jeevan Mission</u>' 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

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