

Report on Lecture-Rejuvenation of The Gomti River

A lecture was delivered in the Institution of Engineers auditorium on 27th Jan'15 by Sri Viswa Nath Khemka on rejuvenation of the Gomti river. He emphasized that the river flow should be clean and continuous and should be regulated so that benefits, goods and services derived from river, may be optimized for the people dependant on the river water for their livelihood. He informed that the Gomti River is spread in 12 districts. Total length of the Gomti is 711 km while its length upto Lucknow is 312 km with a catchment area of 30934 sq. km.

According to Mr. Khemka river rejuvenation program should have to include 3 components-

1. Pollution abatement measures – it is treating at source. He opined that untreated sewage and industrial effluents should not be allowed to fall into the natural drains.

2. Augmentation of flows during lean period- He emphasized the need of immediate attention on Nation River Linking Project (NRLP) for diverting surplus water from rich basin to water short basin which is interstate contentious. On the other hand assessment of environmental flow regime (EFR) at various reach points of the river for normal maintenance year, wet year and dry year estimation by group of experts may also be considered actively.

3. Mass awareness- To change the people mindset about their responsibilities towards cleanliness. He informed that Lok bharti, a social organization with 'Nadi Mitra' organized camps during the last year to give zero budget training to the farmers belonging in the area along the Gomti river line. U.P. Government has directed the district officials to use MANREGA funds in rejuvenating water bodies and construction of check dams. Many other social organizations are also carrying mass awareness program with the hope of 'Aviral evam Nirmal' river flows.