

River revival



Indian students from the Sachcha Baba Ashram ved vidyalaya (religious school) collecting rubbish on the banks of the river Ganga in Allahabad. PHOTO: AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE



Waste problem

501 million litres of industrial waste and 3.5 billion litres of sewage flow into the Ganga every day. The government has allocated over 200 billion rupees (\$4.3 billion) for cleaning the river.



Army intervention

600 soldiers have been deployed in the city of Allahabad to plant trees and monitor activity on the river bank. Three more battalions are to be deployed.



Modernisation

Plans have been finalised to modernise hundreds of "Dhobi Ghats", or open-air laundries, which wash clothes along the river's banks.



Plastic ban

The National Green Tribunal has banned the use of plastic along a 140km stretch of the river from Feb 1 and imposed a penalty on anyone throwing municipal waste in the Ganga.



Going green

Other plans include the repair of inoperative sewage treatment plants and a campaign to urge farmers near the river to go organic.