

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 884
ANSWERED ON 19.09.2020

MAKING PANCHGANGA POLLUTION-FREE UNDER NRCP

884. Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati

Will the Minister of Jal Shakti be pleased to state:

(a) whether National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) was conceived to improve water quality of rivers through pollution abatement works in various towns located along the banks, which included river Panchganga in Maharashtra also;

(b) if so, the action taken during the last twenty five years to make the river pollution free by undertaking adequate measures to improve water quality;

(c) whether Government has any plan to undertake pollution abatement works at major towns located along its banks in near future considering highly polluted State of the river, a tributary of river Krishna,; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) It is the responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and local bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluent, before discharge into recipient water bodies to prevent and control of pollution therein. This Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of rivers (excluding river Ganga and its tributaries), through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) on cost sharing basis. The objective of NRCP is to improve water quality of rivers to the prescribed standards with the implementation of pollution abatement schemes in towns along identified polluted river stretches, which included river Panchganga in Maharashtra.

NRCP presently covers polluted stretches on 34 rivers in 77 towns spread over 16 States in the country with total sanctioned cost of the projects as Rs.5870.54 crore. Out of Central share, funds amounting to Rs.2530.63 crore have been released to the States for implementation of pollution abatement schemes, and sewage treatment capacity of 2522.03 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far.

(c) & (d) The project for pollution abatement of river Panchganga at Kolhapur was sanctioned under NRCP in August, 2009 at a cost of Rs.74.29 crore. The project involved one STP of 76 mld capacity at Kasba Bawada, which has since been commissioned along with the required sewerage infrastructure.

Proposals for pollution abatement works in identified towns along polluted river stretches are received from the States/UTs from time to time for consideration under the NRCP. These mainly include sewer network, interception & diversion, sewage treatment plants, etc. Proposals are sanctioned based on their prioritization, conformity with the NRCP guidelines, availability of Plan funds, etc.