

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1219

ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023

AMOUNT SPENT ON CLEANING OF RIVER GANGA UNDER NMCGP

1219. # SHRI RAJMANI PATEL SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Namami Gange Project (NGP) launched in 2014-15 for five years to rejuvenate Ganga and its tributaries have not yielded any concrete results so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) the total amount spent on cleaning of river Ganga since 2014-15 as per the National Mission for Clean Ganga Projects (NMCGP); and
- (d) whether Government has any plan to extend NGP project for another five years and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) & (b) Implementation of the projects under Namami Gange Programme has been effective, able to reduce pollution load in river Ganga and has gained momentum recently.

Government of India (GoI) has launched the Namami Gange Programme in 2014-15, to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga and its tributaries. GoI is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga and its tributaries by providing financial and technical assistance under Namami Gange Programme.

Under Namami Gange Programme, a comprehensive set of interventions such as wastewater treatment, solid waste management, river front management (ghats and crematoria development), e-flow, afforestation, biodiversity conservation and Public Participation etc. have been taken up for rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries. So far, till 31st December 2022, a total of 409 projects have been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 32,912.40 crore, out of which 232 projects have been completed and made operational. Majority of the projects pertain to creation of sewage infrastructure as the untreated domestic/industrial wastewater is the main reason for pollution in the river. 177 sewerage infrastructure projects have been taken up with a cost of Rs. 26,673.06 crore for creation &

rehabilitation of 5,269.87 Million Litres per Day (MLD) of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity and laying of around 5,213.49 KM sewerage network. Among these, 99 sewerage projects have been completed resulting in creation & rehabilitation of 2,043.05 MLD of STP capacity and laying of 4,260.95 KM sewerage network. In order to sustain the continued operation of the sewage treatment infrastructure, Hybrid Annuity based PPP mode has also been adopted.

Apart from the main Ganga stem, projects are also taken up in 18 tributaries namely Yamuna, Kosi, Saryu, Ramganga, Kali (West), Kali (East), Gomti, Son, Barakar, Hindon, Burhi Gandak, Banka, Damodar, Rispana-Bindal, Punpun, Harbora, Suswa and Chambal.

Under the Namami Gange Programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out studies for water quality assessment of the River Ganga at 97 locations in 5 main stem States through the respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). River water quality is assessed for primary water quality criteria notified for outdoor bathing. As per designated best use water quality criteria for drinking water specified by CPCB, river water can be used for drinking purpose only after appropriate treatment.

Based on the water quality assessment by CPCB in 5 Ganga main stem States in 2022 (January to October), the observed water quality indicates that median value of dissolved oxygen, which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river for almost entire stretch of river Ganga. Further, as a result of multi sectoral interventions as per comparison of median data of water quality parameter viz. Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Faecal Coliforms (FC) of year 2014 and 2022 (January to October), DO median has improved at 33 locations, BOD median has improved at 41 locations and FC median has improved at 28 locations respectively.

Cleaning of river is a continuous process and Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Government in addressing the challenges of pollution in river Ganga and its tributaries by providing financial and technical assistance under Namami Gange Programme. The projects are now taken their paces and efforts are being made to complete the projects by their scheduled completion timelines.

(c) & (d) Namami Gange Programme was launched in June 2014 for a period up to 31st March, 2021 to rejuvenate River Ganga and its tributaries. The Programme was subsequently extended up to 31st March, 2026. A total of Rs.14,084.72 crore were released by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), from Financial Year (FY) 2014-15 till 31 January 2023, out of which Rs.13,607.18 crore have been released by NMCG to State Governments, State Missions for Clean Ganga and other agencies for implementation of projects related to Ganga rejuvenation.
