

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1371**

ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023

**DISAPPEARANCE OF SPECIES OF AQUATIC LIFE DUE TO WATER POLLUTION**

1371. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

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

due to pollution of natural water resources, which species of aquatic life have disappeared and the efforts being made by Government to bring them back?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**  
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

As per studies conducted by Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), there has been considerable reduction in population of aquatic life such as Indian major carps namely, Catla, Rohu and Mirgala in Yamuna river due to pollution.

In order to restore and rejuvenate the rivers, various measures are being taken by Central and State Governments to prevent pollution of rivers and water bodies. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance for pollution abatement of identified polluted stretches of rivers in the country to State/UT Governments through schemes like Namami Gange Programme, National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Transformation (AMRUT) and National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem (NPCA), etc. Also, CIFRI has been assigned to restore population of the Indian major carps in Ganga river basin, including river Yamuna. During the year 2021-2022 alone, about 75 lakh fish fingerlings of Indian major carps species were released into the river system.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in different States/Union Territories (UTs), has been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme.

As per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units are required to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and treat their effluents to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into river and water bodies. Accordingly, CPCB, SPCBs and PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take punitive action for non-compliance under provisions of these Acts.

Besides, in compliance of the orders of National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application No. 673/2018 regarding rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country, States/UTs are required to implement approved action plans for restoration of the polluted stretches in their jurisdiction as identified by CPCB and published in their report of 2018, within the stipulated timelines. As per the orders of NGT, regular review on implementation of action plans to mitigate river and other surface water is undertaken in the States/UTs and also at Central level.

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