

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2171

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

POLLUTED RIVER STRETCH (PRS) IN RIVER CAUVERY BASIN, KARNATAKA

2171. SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA

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

- (a) whether River Lakshmana Teertha from Hunsur Town To Kattemalalavadi is Polluted River Stretch (PRS);
- (b) whether River Yagachi in Hassan is PRS;
- (c) whether River Cauvery from Ranganathittu to Sattegala Bridge is PRS;
- (d) whether River Kabini from Nanjangud to Hejjige is PRS;
- (e) whether River Shimsha from Yedyur to Halaguru is PRS;
- (f) whether River Arkavati from Tippagondanahalli Reservoir to Kanakapura Town is PRS;and
- (g) if so, the reasons for declaring above as PRS and the target date to restore water quality in the above six PRS?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (g) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in different States/Union Territories (UTs) have been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP). Pollution assessment of rivers has been carried out by CPCB from time to time based on water quality monitoring results in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels, an indicator of organic pollution. The polluted river stretches have been categorized into 5 priority classes, based on BOD levels in milligram per liter (mg/l) as Priority (P) - I (BOD>30 mg/l), P - II (20 to 30) mg/l, P - III (10 to 20) mg/l, P - IV (6-10) mg/l & P - V (3 to 6) mg/l.

As per the previous CPCB report of September, 2018, the polluted stretch along Yagachi, Hassan was identified as Priority-V (BOD-4 mg/l) on Yagachi River. However, in the latest CPCB report published in November, 2022, this stretch has been delisted from the list of polluted river stretches.

The details of polluted stretches identified on the remaining rivers namely Lakshmana Teertha, Cauvery, Kabini, Shimsha and Arkavathi in Karnataka, as per CPCB report, November, 2022, are given below:

S No	State	River	Polluted river stretch/ Location	Max BOD observed (mg/l)	Priority
1	Karnataka	Arkavathi	Hesaraghatta to Kanakpura	39	I
2		Shimsha	Yediyar to Madduar	9.5	IV
3		Cauvery	Along Sri Rangapattanna	6	V
4		Kabini	Along Nanjanagud	3.8	V
5		Lakshmantirtha	Along Hunsur	5.6	V

Cleaning/rejuvenation of rivers is an ongoing process. 'Water' is a State subject, and it is the responsibility of the States/UTs, local bodies and industries to ensure treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into water bodies or land to prevent and control pollution therein.

For conservation of rivers, this Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of rivers in the country through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for rivers excluding Ganga and its tributaries. Proposals are received from the States/UTs from time to time for consideration under NRCP and sanctioned based on their prioritization, conformity with guidelines, availability of Plan funds, etc.

In compliance with the orders of Hon'ble 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 these action plans is undertaken in the States/UTs and the same is also done at the Central level by Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.
