GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 411

ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

POTABILITY OF GANGA WATER

411. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

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

(a) whether Ganga water is potable, as per Health Department/Central Pollution Control Board reports, if so, details of the reports; and

(b) the number of persons in the country completely dependent on this river for water?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU**)**

(a) Water, from rivers and water bodies including river Ganga, is to be ingested for drinking purpose only after treatment, as per the designated best use criteria specified by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), as mentioned in **Annexure-I**. The drinking water should comply with the requirements as per BIS Standard IS 10500/2012.

Under the Namami Gange Program, projects are taken up so that Ganga water meets the primary water quality criteria for "outdoor bathing", as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC).

(b) Approximately more than 500 million people (around 40 % of India population) are directly or indirectly dependent upon the Ganga River for water.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 411 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING "POTABILITY OF GANGA WATER".

Designated Best Use Water Quality Criteria

Designated-Best-Use	Class of water	Criteria
Drinking Water Source without conventional treatment but after disinfection	**A**	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 50 or less pH between 6.5 and 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 6mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20C 2mg/l or less
Outdoor bathing (Organised)	**B**	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 500 or less pH between 6.5 and 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 5 mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20 C 3mg/l or less
Drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection	**C**	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 5000 or less pH between 6 to 9 Dissolved Oxygen 4mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20 C 3mg/l or less
Propagation of Wild life and Fisheries	**D**	pH between 6.5 to 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 4 mg/l or more Free Ammonia (as N) 1.2 mg/l or less
Irrigation,Industrial Cooling,Controlled Waste disposal	**E**	pH between 6.0 to 8.5 Electrical Conductivity at 25C micro mhos/cm Max.2250 Sodium absorption Ratio Max. 26 Boron Max. 2mg/l

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