

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1525

ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024

IMPACT OF NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME

1525. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI

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

- (a) whether Namami Gange Programme has led to marked improvement in the state of Ganga river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there has been a decrease in baseflow amount of the river;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including its impact on the river;
- (e) whether deficiencies in financial management, planning, implementation and monitoring of the programme have been found; and
- (f) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, the polluted river stretches (PRSs) on river Ganga based on the assessment carried out in 2022 (2019 & 2021 data), are as under:

- a. In Uttar Pradesh, Farrukhabad to Allahabad & Mirzapur to Ghazipur in - Priority Class V;
- b. In Bihar, along Buxar, Patna, Fatwah and Bhagalpur - Priority Class IV;
- c. In West Bengal, Behrampur to Haldia - Priority Class IV .

The PRSs on river Ganga, based on 2023 data, have changed from Priority class III/IV to V, thus indicating decrease in pollution level. The existing PRSs in 2023 are as under:

- a. Uttarakhand does not fall under polluted stretch (BOD <3mg/l);
- b. In Uttar Pradesh, Farrukhabad to Kanpur downstream- *Priority Class III*; Dalmau, Raebareilly to Kalakankar, Pratapgarh- *Priority Class V*; Dheemi, Pratapgarh- *Priority Class V*; downstream of Mirzapur to Chunar- *Priority Class V*; Varanasi downstream to Tarighat, Ghazipur- *Priority Class V* ;
- c. In Bihar- Bhagalpur downstream - *Priority Class V*;
- d. Jharkhand does not fall under polluted stretch (BOD <3mg/l);
- e. In West Bengal, Dakshineswar to Diamond Harbour- *Priority Class V*.

Based on the water quality assessment by CPCB in 5 Ganga main stem States in 2023, median value of Dissolved Oxygen- an indicator of river health has been found within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

(c) & (d) As informed by Central Water Commission (CWC), no decreasing trend is observed in the annual average flows (Non-Monsoon-November to May), over the last 20 years, in the Ganga River.

(e) & (f) There is an adequate system of financial management and project monitoring institutionalized in Namami Gange which is being reviewed on continuous basis and is being further strengthened from time to time depending on emerging requirements and technology upgradations.

The release of funds is through Treasury Single Accounts system where releases are made Just in Time. All unutilized balances are returned to the exchequer at the end of the financial year. As an additional control mechanism, the internal audit wing of Ministry is also conducting audit of NMCG to have a further assurance on adequacy of the financial management systems in the organization.

Further, regular review / interaction with states, agencies etc. /site visits etc. is done by Department to ensure proper implementation of projects and to enable coordination amongst all concerned.
