

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.709**

ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

**WATER QUALITY IN RIVERS OF THE COUNTRY**

709. SHRI JOSE K. MANI

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any recent study to assess the water quality in the country rivers;
- (b) if so, furnish the key findings of the study conducted;
- (c) manner in which Government is addressing the issue of urban waste, including plastic waste, entering rivers, and the initiatives that are being implemented to improve waste management practices; and
- (d) whether Government has any plans to conduct public awareness campaigns to educate citizens about the impact of pollution on rivers and to promote sustainable practices?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a) & (b)** The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) based on river water quality monitoring results carries out pollution assessment of rivers from time to time. As per the last report published by CPCB, 603 rivers throughout the country were monitored and 311 polluted river stretches on 279 rivers have been identified. State and river-wise details of pollution level can be also accessed at:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdffile.php?id=UmVwb3J0RmlsZXMvMTQ5OF8xNjcyOTg4MDQ1X21lZGlhcGhvdG8xMjk5NS5wZGY=>

**(c)** It is the responsibility of States and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies. The Govt. of India provides financial and technical support to the States and ULBs under various programs like Namami Gange for pollution abatement of river Ganga and its tributaries and National River Conservation Program (NRCP) for other than Ganga river basin. Apart from this, sewerage infrastructure is created under programs Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs. Further Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) regime under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, according to which it is the responsibility of Producers, Importers and Brand-owners to ensure processing of their plastic packaging waste through recycling, re-use or end of life disposal.

(d) For cleanliness of rivers, public participation is a very important component of the river conservation/rejuvenation program. Under National River Conservation Plan, Namami Gange Programme, Swachh Bharat Mission financial assistance is provided to participating States for undertaking various conservation/rejuvenation activities including education and public awareness among the local people, students and stakeholders about the value, functions and ecological services of rivers through awareness campaigns/publications, pamphlets, video films, yatras, slogan/drawing/essay competitions, etc.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under the aegis of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, has launched 'Clean Green Campaign' with massive citizen participation for effective management of plastic waste and to ensure enforcement of ban on specific Single Use Plastic (SUP) items.

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