

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2638

ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

CONSERVATION AND REVIVAL OF NIRANJANA (PHALGU) RIVER

2638 #. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD

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

- (a) whether the river Niranjana (Phalgu) which originates from Chatra in the State of Jharkhand holds historical and religious significance and whether it is a fact that over a period of time this sacred river is now facing an environmental crisis due to decreasing flow of water, pollution, accumulation of silt as well as encroachment; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government so far for the conservation and revival of the said river, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with Pollution Control Boards/Committees in different States/Union Territories (UTs) has been monitoring water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring programme. Based on water quality monitoring results, pollution assessment of rivers is carried out by CPCB from time to time and polluted river stretches (PRS) is identified Niranjana River does not figure in the list of polluted river stretches published by CPCB.

Cleaning/rejuvenation of rivers is an ongoing activity. It is the primary responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies to ensure the required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies. The government of India has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in rivers/tributaries in Ganga basin through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange Program and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of national River Conservation Plan for other rivers and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation in the country. Government of India also promote efforts for rejuvenating small rivers via various water conservation works through schemes MGNREGA, Watershed Programs, Afforestation activities, etc.
