

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1679

ANSWERED ON 15.12.2025

**REDUCTION OF POLLUTION LEVEL IN RIVER GANGA UNDER
NAMAMI GANGE MISSION**

1679 #. SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of **Jal Shakti** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pollution level in the Ganga river has decreased under the Namami Gange Mission, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any independent assessment report has been issued for this purpose; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to expand this mission to other rivers as well?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), carries out manual water quality monitoring of the river Ganga at 112 locations across five Ganga main-stem States- Uttarakhand-19; Uttar Pradesh-41; Bihar-33; Jharkhand-04; and West Bengal-15.

As per CPCB report on Polluted River Stretch (PRS) 2025 following information about Ganga main stem pollution is available:

Ganga Main Stem – State-wise Comparison (2018 vs 2025)

State	2018 Polluted Stretch	Priority (2018)	2025 Polluted Stretch	Priority (2025)	Trend / Observation
Uttarakhand	Haridwar → Sultanpur	IV	No PRS	—	Improved and PRS stretch removed
Uttar Pradesh	Kannauj → Varanasi	IV	Bijnor → Tarighat	IV / V	Partially improved
Bihar	Buxar to Bhagalpur	V	Bhagalpur, Downstream (D/S) → Khalgaon D/S	V	Marginal pollution remains
Jharkhand	No PRS	—	No PRS	—	—
West Bengal	Triveni → Diamond Harbour	III	Baharampore → Diamond Harbour	V	improved

Based on the water quality data (median values) of the river Ganga for the year 2025 (January to August), the following observations are made.

- i. pH & Dissolved Oxygen (DO) are the most critical parameters of river health. The pH & DO of River Ganga meet the required norms for bathing criteria at all the locations of River Ganga.
- ii. Water quality of river Ganga is conforming with the bathing criteria with respect to Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in the entire stretch of river Ganga in Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Bihar & West Bengal, except the following locations/stretches:
 - Farrukhabad to Purana Rajapur, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
 - Dalmau, Raibareilly, Uttar Pradesh
 - D/s Mirzapur to Tarighat, Ghazipur (except two locations namely U/s Varanasi, After confluence Gomti & U/s Ghazipur) in Uttar Pradesh.

As per the biomonitoring conducted during 2024-25 at 50 locations along river Ganga and its tributaries and 26 locations along River Yamuna and its tributaries, the biological water quality (BWQ) predominantly ranged from 'Good' to 'Moderate'. The presence of diverse benthic macro-invertebrate species indicates the ecological potential of the rivers to sustain aquatic life.

The population of dolphins in the river Ganga has shown a marked increase over the past decade. From an estimated baseline of 2500 to 3000 individuals in 2009, the population rose to approximately 3500 in 2015 and further to around 6327 individuals as per the nationwide survey conducted during 2021-2023. This represents more than a twofold increase since 2009. In the Ganga basin the 2021-2023 assessment across 17 tributaries confirmed dolphin presence in multiple rivers where they were previously unrecorded, such as the Rupnarayan, Girwa, Kauriyala, Baba, Rapti, Bagmati, Mahananda, Ken, Betwa, and Sind.

(c) The Namami Gange Mission covers all rivers of the Ganga basin, including its tributaries. For rivers belonging to other basins, the National River Conservation Directorate provides financial and technical assistance to the States based on river-specific priorities and the availability of resources. As of October 2025, pollution abatement projects have been sanctioned for 30 rivers/tributaries of the Ganga basin under the Namami Gange Programme.
