

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 881

ANSWERED ON 27.07.2026

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON MONITORING, TRANSPARENCY AND FUTURE PLANS

881 Shri SANT BALBIR SINGH:

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

- (a) national monitoring systems or digital platforms that are currently used to track water quality, groundwater pollution and river health across the country;
- (b) whether there are any long-term national plans or targets for ensuring safe drinking water and pollution-free rivers by a specific year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) steps being taken to ensure public transparency and citizen participation in monitoring water pollution and protecting water resources?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in association with State Pollution Control Boards/Committees, in different States/UTs, have been monitoring water quality of rivers and other water bodies through a network of 4,922 monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP).

CPCB on pilot basis has also directed Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) to install Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) and has established 40 Real-Time Water Quality Monitoring (RTWQM) stations on the Ganga and its tributaries on a pilot basis with financial assistance from Namami Gange Programme (NGP).

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out regional-scale groundwater quality monitoring across the country through periodic sampling and analysis of selected water quality parameters.

Cleaning and rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous process. It is the primary responsibility of the States / Union Territories (UTs), Local bodies and Industrial Units to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to prescribed norms before discharging into rivers and other water bodies, or land to prevent and control of pollution therein. For river conservation, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for pollution abatement in identified polluted river

stretches under the Namami Gange Programme for the Ganga basin and the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other river basins.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Indian Standard (IS) 10500 has been adopted as benchmark for the quality of drinking water supplied through piped water supply schemes. Water quality test results are available in the public domain and can be accessed through the JJM Water Quality Management Information System (WQMIS) portal.

Further, Field Test Kits (FTKs) are promoted as a community-based tool for surveillance of drinking water quality at the delivery points including village, schools and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and for undertaking Information, Education & Communication (IEC) and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) activities under JJM. States/UTs are encouraged to involve trained members of Village Water & Sanitation Committees (VWSCs)/ Pani Samitis, Self-Help Groups and other community volunteers for periodic testing of drinking water sources and household tap water using FTKs.

In addition, Central Ground Water Board promotes transparency by placing groundwater level and quality data, Dynamic Ground Water Resources Assessment reports, aquifer maps and groundwater-management plans in the public domain through the CGWB website.

While under the NRCP, public awareness and stakeholder participation are integral components of river conservation projects, the Government also promotes community participation through various activities such as Ganga Utsav, Jalaj Centres, Ganga Praharis under NGP, Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign under National Water Mission and cleanliness drive under Swachh Bharat Mission, etc.
