

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2280
ANSWERED ON 08.03.2018

PRESENCE OF HARMFUL ELEMENTS IN GANGES AND YAMUNA RIVERS

†2280. SHRI GOPAL SHETTY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed or proposes to assess wastes and dirty water being released in major rivers of the country especially in the Yamuna and the Ganges along with the names of harmful elements present in their waters including the level of each such elements separately;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, river-wise including the Yamuna and the Ganges; and
- (c) the action taken/ to be taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND
GANGA REJUVENATION & HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board is assessing the water quality of rivers and water being released in major rivers of the country including river Ganga and Yamuna. The water quality of 540 rivers including River Ganga and Yamuna at 1533 locations is being assessed in association with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees throughout the country.

Based on long term assessment of water quality of Rivers carried out for the period 2008 – 2012, there are 302 polluted river stretches on 275 rivers with respect to indicator of organic pollution i.e. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in 29 States/UTs which was published in 2015. As per the assessment, 650 towns were identified as polluting sources along the respective river stretches out of which 35 are metropolitan cities.

234 drains having flow of more than 1 Million Litres per day (1 MLD) discharging into main stem of River Ganga and its tributaries viz, Ramganga, Kali-East, Hindon, Pandu, & Yamuna are being monitored.

Priority Drains discharging into main stem of River Ganga

State/ Phase/Segment	No. of Priority towns	No. of priority drains	Flow * (MLD)	Organic Load* (TPD)
Uttarakhand	05	12	132.77	7.11
Uttar Pradesh	11	59	1927.32	133.32
Bihar	05	22	636.18	27.36
Jharkhand	01	2	30.68	3.00
West Bengal	35	59	6419.14	190.41
Total	57	154	9146.09	361.2

*Flow & organic load for period October to December, 2016

Priority drains discharging into River Ramganga, Kali East and Pandu

River	No. of Priority towns	No. of priority drains	Flow* (MLD)	Organic Load* (TPD)
Ramganga, Uttar Pradesh	04	25	728.13	41.12
Kali East, Uttar Pradesh	10	26	996.53	99.70
Pandu, Uttar Pradesh	01	05	349.53	18.60
Total	15	56	2074.19	159.42

*Flow & organic load for post Monsoon, 2016

(c) The Government has taken following measures for pollution abatement in rivers including Ganga and Yamuna:

- (i) Government has taken up 'Namami Gange Program', an integrated river conservation mission for rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries including Yamuna. Under this program activities are taken up in a holistic manner integrating various initiatives such as river front development, ghat & crematoria, ghat and river cleaning, rural sanitation, bio remediation, afforestation, bio-diversity conservation and public participation & outreach.
- (ii) Implementation of water conservation measures in key industrial sectors namely Distillery, Pulp & Paper, Sugar, Textile and Tannery.

- (iii) Surprise inspection of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) is carried out on regular interval for compliance verification of the stipulated environmental norms. 1109 GPIs have been identified on main stem of river Ganga and its tributaries. Out of 1109 GPIs inspected, 538 were found to be non-complying and out of which 358 have been issued closure directions and 180 have been issued show cause notices.
- (iv) Installation of Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) has been initiated for assessment of effluent quality and compliance status. Out of 1109 GPIs, OCEMS connectivity has been established in 753 out of 1109 GPIs.
- (v) Establishment/Upgradation of Sewage treatment Plants and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for the towns located on Ganga main stem and its tributaries. The estimated sewage generation of Ganga front towns as per year 2035 is 3603 MLD and capacity of existing STPs is 1584 MLD. 100 sewerage infrastructure projects have been sanctioned and out of which 20 have been completed and remaining projects are in different stages of execution which will lead to capacity addition of 1607 MLD.
- (vi) With respect to industrial effluents, consent management for compliance of standards is being enforced by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) to improve the water quality of the rivers.
