

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. † 4530
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

REVIVAL OF DRY RIVERS

†4530. SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify the rivers dried up in various parts of the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to revive these rivers; and
- (d) if so, the progress made in this regard till date?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) has constituted an Expert Committee to explore the alternate sources of water in arid areas of the country with detailed focus on Palaeo-channels (Dried up rivers). The terms of reference of the Expert Committee include reviewing the available information on Palaeo- channels, compilation of relevant documents and existing studies, mapping of Palaeo-channels, preparing the perspective plan to optimize the utilization of available fresh water in such Palaeo-channels and identify the zones favourable for artificial recharge, etc.

The rejuvenation of River Ganga and its tributaries is undertaken by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR), while the pollution abatement work for rest of the rivers is undertaken by Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC).

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under MoWR, RD & GR has sanctioned a total of 97 projects of sewerage infrastructure in Ganga basin States for river cleaning and Ganga rejuvenation. Out of the 97 projects, 19 projects have been completed, creating 228.13 million liters per day (MLD) of new Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity and rehabilitation of 92 MLD capacity and laying / rehabilitation of 1523.5 Kilometer sewer network capacity.

National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) has covered polluted stretches of 32 rivers in 76 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 4579.56 crore. So far, Central share of Rs. 2236.98 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes and sewage treatment capacity of 2466.43 MLD has been created under NRCP.