

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,  
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6330**  
ANSWERED ON 05.04.2018

**DISCHARGE OF WASTE WATER INTO GANGA RIVER**

6330.           SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the discharge of untreated domestic and industrial waste water into Ganga, Ghagra and Sarayu rivers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to prevent the same;
- (c) whether the pollution of these rivers have affected the habitat of more than thirty varieties of fishes and a large number of people who are dependent on the river water and fish and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that the water drawn from hand pumps and rivers are fit for human consumption especially for people living near the polluted rivers?

**ANSWER**

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

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

- (a) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) of 5 Ganga States monitors water quality of River Ganga at 94 locations, Saryu at one location and Ghaghra at 3 locations.

In 2015, based on long term assessment of water quality of Rivers, 302 polluted river stretches were identified on 275 rivers (including River Ganga, Saryu & Ghaghara) based on the evaluation of water quality data over the years with respect to indicator of organic pollution i.e. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in 29 States/UTs. Details of polluted river stretches on the

three rivers are given in table below:

S No.	River Name	State Name	Stretch Identified	Towns Identified	Approx Length Of The Stretch (In Km)
1.	Ghaghara	Uttar Pradesh	Barhalganj to Deoria	Ayodhya, Tanda, Deoria	25
2.	Saryu	Uttar Pradesh	Ayodhya to Elafatganj	Faizabad, Ayodhya	25
3.	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh	Kannauj to Varanasi	Kannauj, Kanpur, Allahabad, Mirzapur, Varanasi	450
4.	Ganga	Bihar	Buxar to Bhagalpur	Buxar, Patna, Bhagalpur	40
5.	Ganga	Uttarakhand	Haridwar to Sultanpur	Rishikesh, Haridwar	10
6.	Ganga	West Bengal	Tribeni to Diamond Harbour	Kanchrapara, Hooghly, Naihati, Chandannagar, Bhatpara, Barrackpore, Baranagar, Kolkata, Howrah, Berhampore, Palta, Dakshineswar, Uluberia	50

(b) Govt. of India is supplementing the efforts of the state governments in addressing the pollution of river Ganga by providing financial assistance to the states. Government of India has approved Namami Gange Programme in May 2015 for conservation of river Ganga with total outlay of Rs 20,000 crore. Namami Gange is an umbrella programme for river Ganga basin including its tributaries, which integrates previous and currently ongoing initiatives by enhancing efficiency, extracting synergies and supplementing them with more comprehensive & better coordinated interventions.

Namami Gange programme is being carried out through various coordinated activities including treatment of municipal sewage, treatment of industrial effluent, river surface cleaning, rural sanitation, River Front Development, Ghats and Crematoria, afforestation & biodiversity conservation, public outreach etc.

The initial focus of the programme has been main stem of river Ganga wherein an estimated 2953 Million Litres per Day (year 2016) sewage is generated from the towns located along river Ganga.

In order to address the untreated sewage discharge into river Ganga, in addition to the existing Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity of 1584 MLD (Nov'2017), projects for creation of 1607 MLD have been sanctioned under various scheme and are at different stages of implementation.

Along river Ghaghra & Saryu, 9 towns have been identified having an estimated sewage generation of 170 MLD. As of today no project have been proposed on these two tributaries.

(c) National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has assigned a project on “Assessment of Fish and Fisheries of the Ganga River System for developing suitable conservation and restoration plan” to Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barakpore, West Bengal for a period of five years (2015-2020).

As per the study, the fish catch from river Ganga has seen decline due to significant increase in the proportion of exotic fish like common carp and tilapia which represents 43- 48% of the total catch.

These changes are multi-factorial in origin, such as pollution and decline in water flow in the river due to water diversion in barrages/dams, unregulated use of small meshed fishing gear, adoption of flood control measures, disconnection of floodplains, siltation in river bed, climate change etc. As a result, a section of fishers might have moved into other professions.

(d) The Central & State Pollution Control Boards are implementing the Water Act, 1974 to restore water quality. The following main steps are taken to prevent and control pollution.

1. CPCB issued Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding ‘Treatment and Utilization of Sewage for Restoration of water quality of River’ to Municipal Corporations of 46 Metropolitan cities and 20 State Capitals in October, 2015.
2. CPCB issued Directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 regarding treatment & utilization of sewage to SPCBs/ Pollution Control Committee (PCCs).
3. Directions are issued for various industrial sectors to implement Zero Liquid Discharge for protection of the water quality of rivers and streams.
4. Common effluent treatment plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units.
5. With respect to industrial effluents, consent management for compliance of standards is being enforced by SPCBs/PCCs to improve the water quality of the rivers.
6. The continuous water quality monitoring systems are being established on industrial units in the country through the directives issued by CPCB for getting real time information on the effluent quality and non-complying units have been identified for action.
7. Status on polluted stretches has been communicated to SPCBs/PCCs for restoration of Polluted River Stretches and preparation of action plan.