

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2656
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2018

CLEANING OF GANGA RIVER

2656. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government does not have any data regarding the length of Ganga river in kilometers which has been cleaned and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government has no proper plan to clean the Ganga river and if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated/spent during each year of the period 2014 to 2016 for cleaning the said river, State-wise; and
- (d) the action the Government has been taking to clean the river?

ANSWER

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

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) Under the Namami Gange Programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out the water quality monitoring of river Ganga from Gangotri to West Bengal. Based on the water quality data of last three years, reaches of the river upstream of Rishikesh is meeting the primary bathing water quality criteria.

The comparison of observed water quality (2017) with bathing water quality criteria indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and for almost entire stretch of river Ganga. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is found above acceptable limit in part of stretches Down Stream (D/S) of Haridwar to Kannauj, at Kanpur, at Allahabad, at Varanasi; and some stretches in West Bengal (e.g. Baharampore, Serampore, Palta, Dakhshineswar, Howrah, Garden Reach, Uluberia and Diamond Harbour).

Further, the river water quality assessment carried out in 2017 indicates improvement in water quality trends as compared to 2016. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 33 locations and is above the primary bathing water quality requirements of 5 mg/l, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 26 locations and at 30 locations, respectively.

Some stretches, where improvement has been observed are :

- (i) Ganga at Rishikesh U/S
- (ii) Ganga at Haridwar D/S
- (iii) Ganga at Allahabad D/S (Sangam),
- (iv) Ganga at Kanpur D/S (Jajmau Pumping Station)

- (v) Ganga at Varanasi U/S (Assighat)
- (vi) Ganga at Buxar, Ramrekhaghat
- (vii) Ganga at Punpun, Patna
- (viii) Ganga at Diamond Harbour
- (ix) Ganga at Garden Reach
- (x) Ganga at Baharampur
- (xi) Ganga at Howrah Shivpur

(b) No, Madam. The Government has a comprehensive plan to clean the river Ganga and has accordingly approved Namami Gange Program in May 2015 for conservation of river Ganga at a total outlay of Rs.20,000 Crores and supplement the efforts of the state governments in addressing the pollution of river Ganga by providing financial assistance to the states.

The programme covers short term, medium term and long term activities. Under short term activities, certain entry level activities which cover development of ghats & crematoria, river surface cleaning activities etc. have been planned. Under medium term activities, existing sewage treatment plant and effluent treatment plant will be upgraded and new Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) & Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) will be established. Beside, rural sanitation activities have been taken up in the villages on the bank of river Ganga. The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of river Ganga and maintaining the ecological & geological integrity of river.

(c) The details of the state-wise funds allocated / spent by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) since financial year 2013-14 to financial year 2016-17 till 31st March 2017, under the Namami Gange Programme are tabulated below:-

Sl. No.	State	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Uttarakhand	17.05	4.26	30.26	30.66
2	Uttar Pradesh	92.3	74.58	147.58	587.17
3	Bihar	91.14	-----	120.23	82.03
4	Jharkhand	6.26	0.97	27.83	46.18
5	West Bengal	48.91	73.85	185.79	114.25
6	Haryana	-----	-----	30.00	52.73
7	Delhi	-----	-----	4.96	2.17

(d) Namami Gange programme is being carried out through variety of coordinated activities meant for cleaning of river Ganga including treatment of municipal sewage, treatment of industrial effluent, river surface cleaning, rural sanitation, River Front Development, Construction of Ghats and Crematoria, afforestation & biodiversity conservation, public outreach etc. So far a total of 221 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.22,238 crore for various activities.

Under Namami Gange programme, towards cleaning of the river a total of 105 projects have been sanctioned for creation and rehabilitation of sewerage infrastructure for creating a total treatment capacity of 3295 MLD and laying of sewerage network of 4823 km at an estimated cost of Rs.17,485 crore. Out of these, 26 projects have been completed.

Further, a total of 67 projects have been sanctioned for River Front Development, development of Ghats and Crematoria, Ghat cleaning and river surface cleaning activities at an estimated cost of Rs.1296 crore. Out of these, 24 projects have been completed and other projects are at various stages of implementation.