

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3970
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

National River Conservation Programme

3970. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of National River Conservation Programme (NRCP);
- (b) whether there is any proposal to bring all rivers under the ambit of NRCP and, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified any stretch of rivers/streams that are flowing in Karnataka, based on Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level in rivers, a key indicator of organic pollution under NRCP and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the water quality of the polluted stretches of rivers/streams; and
- (e) the amount sanctioned for this purpose during the last three years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) The objective of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) is to reduce the pollution load in rivers through implementation of pollution abatement works in various towns along identified polluted stretches of rivers for improvement in their water quality. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the State Governments in this regard by providing financial assistance for taking up works relating to interception & diversion of raw sewage, laying of sewer lines, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation facilities, improved wood crematoria, river front/bathing ghat development, etc. The project proposals under NRCP are sanctioned on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments.

Project proposals are received from the State Governments from time to time for taking up pollution abatement works in towns along various rivers, and are considered for financial assistance under the NRCP subject to their conformity with the scheme guidelines, pollution status, prioritization, appraisal by independent institutions and availability of Plan funds.

(c) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) is monitoring the water quality of rivers on a regular basis. As per a report published by CPCB in February 2015, the following 15 polluted river stretches have been identified in Karnataka, based on the Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level, a key indicator of organic pollution:

Sl. No.	River	Identified Polluted Stretches
1.	Arkavathi	Halli reservoir to Kanakapura town
2.	Bhadra	Holehunnur to Bhadravathi
3.	Bhima	Ghanapur to Yadgir
4.	Cauvery	Ranganthittu to Sathyamangalam Bridge
5.	Ghatprabha	Gokak to Chigadolli
6.	Kabini	Nanjanagud to Hejjige
7.	Kagina	Shahabad to Hongunta
8.	Kali	Hasanmaad to Bommanahalli Reservoir
9.	Krishna	Yadurwadi to Tintini Bridge
10.	Lakshman Tirtha	Kattamalavadi to Hunsur
11.	Malprabha	Khanapur to Dharwad
12.	Manjira	Bidar to Hussain Nagar
13.	Shimsha	Yediyar to Halagur
14.	Tungabhadra	Harihar to Korlahalli
15.	Tunga	Shivamoga to Kudli

(d) & (e) NRCP {excluding Ganga and its tributaries, which are handled by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation from 1.8.2014 onwards} has covered polluted stretches of 32 rivers in 76 towns spread over 14 States in the country, including Karnataka, at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 4581.91 crore, and Central share of Rs. 2258.73 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. This includes works taken up at a sanctioned cost of Rs.66.25 crore in Karnataka, for which Central Share of Rs.47.83 crore was released to the State Government. Sewage treatment capacity of 2472.43 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far under NRCP, including 41.64 mld in Karnataka. State-wise details of funds released to various State Governments during the last three years and current year (till 30.6.2018) under NRCP are at Annexure.

To ensure proper treatment of municipal sewage before discharge into the rivers, CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all the SPCBs/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in the country, including Karnataka, regarding setting up of sewage treatment plants in their respective States. CPCB has also issued directions in October, 2015 to municipal authorities of 184 towns (66 metropolitan cities and State capitals + towns along Ganga) under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated to control pollution in rivers.

To control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective SPCBs/ PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluents discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. In this regard, various steps taken by Government include rigorous monitoring and directions to grossly polluting industries & 17 categories of highly polluting industries for installation of online (24x7) monitoring devices, promoting low waste concept in industries particularly those located on the river banks, notifying industry specific effluent standards, promoting setting up of CETPs for cluster of small industries, etc.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3970 to be answered on Friday, the 10th August, 2018 on 'National River Conservation Programme'

Details of the funds released to the State Governments during the last three years and the current financial year for pollution abatement of various rivers under National River Conservation Plan

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	River	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (till 30.06.2018)
1.	Gujarat	Sabarmati & Mindola	24.12	71.40	62.00	-
2.	Maharashtra	Mula Mutha	4.99	21.00	31.75	-
3.	Punjab	Ghaggar, Beas & Satluj	17.61	--	50.00	-
4.	Kerala	Pamba	5.00	--	--	-
5.	Sikkim	Rani Chu	1.00	5.00	18.01	15.00
6.	Nagaland	Diphu & Dhansiri	10.00	--	5.00	5.00
7.	Odisha	Coastal Area (Puri)	--	--	1.99	-
8.	Goa	Sal	--	--	3.00	-
Total			62.72	97.40	171.75	20.00