GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1681

ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018

EXPENDITURE UNDER NAMAMI GANGE MISSION

†1681. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE

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

- (a) whether there has not been any improvement in controlling pollution levels in the Ganga river even after three years have passed since inception of Namami Gange Mission worth Rs. 20,000 crore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of schemes/projects launched and completed under the said Mission during the last three years;
- (d) the funds spent so far for completion of the said schemes/projects; and
- (e) whether any assistance has been sought from consortium of IITs for the said purpose and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b) Under the Namami Gange Programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out the water quality monitoring of river Ganga. The observed water quality of last three years 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 also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Due to various pollution abatement initiatives taken by the Government under the Namami Gange Programme, the river water quality assessment in 2018 has shown improved water quality trend as compared to 2017. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 39 locations. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 42 and 47 locations, respectively.

River Cleaning is a continuous process and under the Namami Gange Programme, several initiatives have been taken by Government of India which includes abatement and control of pollution at the source of pollution generation by adopting activities such as establishment/upgradation of Sewage Treatment Plants for the towns located on Ganga main stem

and its tributaries, surface cleaning activities and solid waste management. The outputs of these projects have started yielding results and the water quality is likely to further improve once all the projects are operationalized.

- (c) During the last three years, 175 projects have been sanctioned and 42 projects were completed.
- (d) An amount of Rs.3,290.52 crore has been spent by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under Namami Gange Programme out of the total released of Rs.4,730.22 crore by Government of India during the last three financial years (i.e. 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18).
- (e) A Consortium of seven (7) Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras and IIT Roorkee, led by IIT Kanpur were brought together in 2010 and entrusted with work of preparation of Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP). National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is carrying out various projects/ activities under Namami Gange Programme as per the thrust areas and action points identified in the GRBMP submitted by IIT consortium.

Further, to accommodate the dynamic and evolving nature of GRBMP, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Center for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (CGanga) in April 2016 for continued scientific support to NMCG for a period 10 years. Through the broad platform of CGanga, a knowledge partner to NMCG, various organisations and institutes of repute have been engaged which has been a continual support in knowledge sharing.
