

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2056
ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019

CLEANING OF SMALL RIVERS

†2056. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to clean small rivers passing through the district headquarters, cities and industrial areas;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to make new provision in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) to (c) Cleaning of river is a continuous process and the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of rivers by providing financial and technical assistance.

Under the Namami Gange Programme, launched in May, 2015 diverse set of coordinated activities meant for cleaning of river Ganga have been taken up. These include treatment of municipal sewage, treatment of industrial effluents, drain bio-remediation, river surface cleaning, rural sanitation, river front development, ghats and crematoria development, afforestation & biodiversity conservation, public outreach programme etc. So far, under Namami Gange Programme, a total of 298 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.28,451.29 crore. Out of the 298 projects, 150 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.23,130.95 crore towards sewerage treatment infrastructure projects for cleaning of river Ganga and its tributaries.

Under Namami Gange programme, cleaning of tributaries is also being considered and accordingly projects are being taken up on subsidiary tributaries of Ganga, wherever required. Till date 39 sewerage treatment infrastructure projects have been taken up in 27 towns located along tributaries namely Yamuna, Kali, Ramganga, Saryu, Gomti, Damodar, Banka, Rispana, Kharkai, Kosi and Burhi Gandak.

Assistance is also provided to State Governments for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers (excluding river Ganga and its tributaries) under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) on cost sharing basis between the Central & State

Governments for taking up various pollution abatement works relating to interception & diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage systems, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation, river front/bathing ghat development, etc.

The NRCP has so far covered polluted stretches of 34 rivers in 77 towns spread over 16 States in the country at a sanctioned cost of Rs.5870.54 crore and Central share of Rs.2378.73 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. Sewage treatment capacity of 2522.03 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far under the NRCP.

Further, to control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To improve the monitoring of compliance, directions have been issued by CPCB to specific industries to install online 24x7 effluent monitoring systems. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste concept in grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.
