

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA
REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2713

ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

POLLUTION IN YAMUNA RIVER

2713 SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that river Yamuna is most polluted in National Capital Region (NCR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for the cleanliness of river Yamuna;
- (d) whether any directions/guidelines issued to the Government of Delhi on this issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b) As informed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), water quality of River Yamuna is monitored by CPCB under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh at 33 locations.

The analysis of water quality data of river Yamuna based on concentration of BOD during 2019-2021 revealed that highest concentration of BOD is observed in river Yamuna in Delhi during all the three years (i.e., from 2019- 2021) followed by downstream Uttar Pradesh locations. Maximum concentration observed is 114 mg/L during 2020. The details are as under:

State	year	BOD	
		Min	Max
Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		<3mg/L	
HARYANA	2019	1.0	14.0
	2020	1.0	9.1
	2021	1.2	21.0
DELHI	2019	1.7	63.0
	2020	1.4	114.0
	2021	2.5	83.0
UTTAR PRADESH	2019	1.9	47.0
	2020	1.8	59.0
	2021	1.9	36.0

River Yamuna is polluted mainly due to discharge of treated/partially treated municipal sewage, industrial effluents. Apart from this, the other factors impacting river pollution are improper solid

waste management, ground water abstraction, encroachments in flood plains/ river banks & inadequate environmental flows etc.

As per the data submitted by DPCC, the total sewage generation in Delhi is 3491 MLD, whereas the total installed capacity of 35 STPs are 2874 MLD (82.32%) with 2714 MLD being operational capacity. In addition, there are 13 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) with a total capacity of 212.3 MLD is existing in Delhi to treat industrial wastewater generated from industries.

(c) Action plans for rejuvenation of rivers have been prepared by “River Rejuvenation Committee” (RRC) constituted by the respective State Government/UT Administration, under the overall supervision and coordination of Principal Secretary, Environment of the concerned State/Union Territory, including river Yamuna.

Presently in Delhi, under Namami Gange Programme, a total of 13 projects have been taken up with a sanctioned cost of Rs.2419 crore to abate the pollution in river Yamuna. These projects are at various stages of implementation. These projects envisage creation of 1384.5 MLD of sewage treatment capacities in Delhi to bridge the gap in treatment capacity. In addition, three projects for creation of 77 MLD additional treatment capacity and upgradation of 429 MLD existing capacity of STPs are also underway. Interception sewer project to intercept 1100 MLD of sewer has been completed. Sewer lines have been laid in 725 colonies out of 1799 unauthorised colonies while work in 572 colonies is underway.

Stringent monitoring and regulation of industries and pollution sources is undertaken to assess the compliance status of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) for enforcing regulatory framework on the polluting industries. Stringent action is taken by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)/State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees against the GPIs discharging into main stem of Ganga River & its tributaries which are non-complying with respect to the prescribed norms.

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF& CC) formulates and notifies standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants viz. air pollutants and water pollutants from industries, operations or processes with an aim to protect and improve the quality of the environment and abate environmental pollution.

Industry specific effluent/emission standards are notified under Schedule-I: ‘Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from Various Industries’ of Environment Protection Act, 1986. State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees in States and Union Territories, respectively are adhered to ensure the compliance of these standards. So far, 47 industry specific effluent standards and 63 industry specific emission standards have been notified.

Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) regulates industrial pollution through consent mechanism. DPCC has notified stricter norms for sewage treatment in Delhi.

NMCG has been organizing regular Yamuna Ghat cleaning campaigns on certain Saturdays of every month for cleaning the seven Ghats in Yamuna in association with different volunteering civil society groups, citizens and other stake holders.

(d) & (e) Directions were issued by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) dated 16.08.2018 under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 against sub-optimal functioning of CETPs as well as reutilization of treated waste water in the State of Delhi. In addition, as reported by CPCB, directions were also issued to Delhi Jal Board (DJB) dated 19.02.2019 under the said Act against non-complying sewage treatment plants operating in Delhi.

Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti has been monitoring the progress in implementation of Action Plan for the State of Delhi including sewerage projects for abatement of pollution in the river Yamuna in a time bound manner. The Committee has also directed the NCT of Delhi for completing their initiatives without any further delay.

The State Government of Delhi has been directed to ensure compliance of the existing STPs and CETPs and to take strict action against the non-complying industries. Time bound action plan needs to be implemented to bridge the gap in solid waste management in the State.

The directions/guidelines issued by CPCB in recent years, for prevention & control of pollution in river Yamuna are given at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) & (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2713 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.12.2022 REGARDING “POLLUTION IN YAMUNA RIVER”.

- 1) On 23.12.2021, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 regarding industrial Ammonical discharge in to river Yamuna to DPCC and HSPCB.
- 2) On 06.12.2021, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in the matter of control of pollution in river Yamuna to DPCC, HSPCB and UPPCB.
- 3) On 24.09.2021, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986 for ensuring 100% collection and treatment of domestic and industrial waste waters generated in the catchment of Shahdara drain to DPCC.
- 4) On 11.03.2021, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for installation & connectivity of Online continuous effluent monitoring systems (OCEMS) by GPIs to HSPCB, DPCC & UPPCB.
- 5) On 15.02.2021, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for wider use of Mobile based application on STP monitoring to all SPCB/ PCCs.
- 6) On 26.11.2020, CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) b of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, regarding non-compliance of CETPs in Delhi, to Delhi Pollution Control Committee.
- 7) On 26.11.2020, CPCB issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Delhi Jal Board for ensuring 100% collection and treatment of domestic wastewater generated in the region of NCT of Delhi.
- 8) CPCB issued indicative guidelines for restoration of water bodies as guidance to the Stakeholders for ensuring restoration/rejuvenation of water bodies, including small rivers flowing through district headquarters, cities and industrial areas in regard to Hon’ble NGT vide order dated 10.5.2019 in O. A. No 325 of 2015.
- 9) CPCB issued ‘Revised Guidelines for idol immersion to SPCBs/ PCCs vide letter dated 12.05.2020, effective from 01.01.2021.
- 10) Apart from above, regarding industrial ammonical discharge in to river Yamuna, CPCB issued direction to Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. DPCC directed to issue appropriate directions to the GPIs generating effluent containing high Ammoniacal nitrogen and nitrate to submit time bound action plan to curtail generation of ammonical nitrogen, nitrate and phosphate in their effluent through adoption of cleaner technology, waste minimization practices and upgradation of ETP system.