GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *3

ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

POLLUTED RIVER STRETCHES

*3 SHRIMATI KAVITHA MALOTHU

DR. G. RANJITH REDDY

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that Hyderabad to Nalgonda stretch of river Musi in Telangana has been identified as one of the polluting stretches in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to clean the above stretch and the expected time to complete the work;
- (d) whether it is true that the State Government of Telangana has requested for providing funds to clean Musi river and also for constructing a 55-kms. skyway on Musi river;
- (e) if so, the details of requests received by the Government on the matter since 2014 and the action taken on each of such requests; and
- (f) whether the Union Government proposes to provide financial assistance to the State Government of Telangana for constructing skyway on Musi river and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *3 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023 REGARDING 'POLLUTED RIVER STRETCHES'

- (a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the State Pollution Control Boards/Committees in different States/Union Territories (UTs) is monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies from time to time, through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP). As per the CPCB Report of September, 2018 the stretch of Musi river from Hyderabad to Nalgonda in Telangana falls under Priority-I category. However, in their latest report published in November, 2022, a stretch from Bapughat to Rudravelly, Kasaniguda to Valigonda has been identified as Priority-I stretch in Musi river.
- (c) Cleaning/rejuvenation of rivers is an ongoing process. Through the centrally sponsored scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), the Ministry of Jal Shakti has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for pollution abatement of rivers, excluding Ganga and its tributaries, relating to interception & diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage system, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), low cost sanitation, river front/bathing ghat development, etc. in identified polluted stretches of rivers in the country, including Musi and Godavari in Telangana.

Water is a State subject, and it is the responsibility of the States/UTs and local bodies to ensure treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into water bodies or land to prevent and control pollution therein. As per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units and local bodies are required to install Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs)/Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) respectively and treat their effluents/sewage to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into river and water bodies. Accordingly, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take punitive action for non-compliance under the provisions of these Acts.

In Telangana, pollution abatement works were sanctioned and completed under NRCP for conservation of river Musi at a cost of Rs.335.65 crore where 4 STPs of 593 million liters per day (MLD) total capacity were created and commissioned during 2007 to 2013 in Hyderabad. Further, under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) scheme, 2 STPs of 28 MLD total capacity were constructed.

State Government of Telangana has sanctioned 31 STPs totaling 1,259.50 MLD capacity at a cost of Rs.3,866 crore to achieve 100% treatment of sewage (to cater to the present and future generation of sewage) from Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) area.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Jal Shakti had proposals for 4 STP projects pertaining to Musi river conservation at Hyderabad in 2020, which were returned to State Government with observations. However, the State Government has not submitted any revised proposal. Since 2014 in Telangana, there is no ongoing project under NRCP nor is there any proposal under consideration for pollution abatement of Musi river in the State of Telangana.

As per information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), the Union Government has not received any proposal from the State Government of Telangana in respect of construction of Skyway on river Musi.
