GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2806
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021

POLLUTION LEVEL IN WATER BODIES

2806 SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted studies to estimate the pollution levels in water bodies including rivers in Odisha;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has also estimated the toxic chemicals and effluents found in water bodies including their bad effects on the health of the residents of Odisha;
(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to monitor pollution of water bodies; and
(e) the action taken by the Government to prevent pollution of water bodies especially in the backdrop of Covid-19?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with Pollution Control Boards/Committees in different States/Union Territories (UTs) have been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies, including in the state of Odisha, through a network of 4294 monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. Of these 4294 monitoring stations, monitoring is done at 344 locations in Odisha, including rivers (133 nos.), lakes (7 nos.), ponds (8 nos.), canals (9 nos.), drains (94 nos.), ground water (90 nos.) and sewage treatment plants (STPs) (3 nos.). Based on water quality monitoring results, pollution assessment of rivers has been carried out by CPCB from time to time. As per the last report published by CPCB in September 2018, 351 polluted stretches were identified on 323 rivers based on monitoring results in terms of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), an indicator of organic pollution. Of these 351 stretches, 19 polluted stretches have been identified in Odisha as per details given at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) Central Water Commission (CWC) is also carrying out water quality monitoring at key locations covering all important/major rivers in the country and had published a report on 'Status of trace and toxic metals in Indian rivers' in August, 2019. As per the analysis of data for the period May, 2014 to April, 2018 at 424 water quality stations, it was found that 137 water quality stations were within acceptable limits with respect to toxic metals according to BIS:10500-2012. 101 stations were found

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beyond acceptable limits with respect to more than one toxic metal, only Iron concentration was found beyond acceptable limit at 156 stations, presence of Cadmium was found beyond acceptable limit at 3 stations, presence of Chromium was observed at 6 stations, presence of Nickel was found at 9 stations and Lead contamination was observed at 12 stations. Arsenic and Zinc concentrations were found within acceptable limits as per the BIS, and no toxicity with respect to Arsenic and Zinc was observed in the river water during the study period.

(e) Rivers in the country are polluted mainly due to discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents in their respective catchments. It is the responsibility of the States/Union Territories (UTs) and local bodies to ensure treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into rivers, water bodies or land to prevent and control of pollution therein.

Based on the assessment of water quality, various measures are being taken both by the Central and the State Governments to prevent pollution of rivers. River cleaning is a continuous process and the Central Government assists the State Governments and urban local bodies through the schemes of 'Namami Gange' and National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) of Ministry of Jal Shakti. NRCP has so far covered polluted stretches on 34 rivers in 77 towns spread over 16 States in the country with the sanctioned cost of projects as Rs.5965.90 crore, and sewage treatment capacity of 2522.03 MLD created. Under Namami Gange programme, a total of 346 projects, including 158 projects for sewage treatment of 4948 MLD and sewer network of 5213 kms., have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.30235 crore. In addition, sewerage infrastructure is also created under programs like Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) programme of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

Discharge of industrial effluents is monitored by CPCB and the respective State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees through the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

Besides, in compliance of the orders of National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application (OA) No.673/2018 regarding polluted river stretches in the country, States/UTs are required to implement action plans for restoration of the said stretches in their jurisdiction within the stipulated timelines. As per the orders of NGT, regular review is undertaken in the States/UTs and also at Central level.

In addition, CPCB has in July, 2020 issued 'Guidelines for Handling, Treatment and Disposal of Waste Generated during Treatment/Diagnosis/ Quarantine of COVID-19 Patients', which does not permit disposal of bio-medical waste, including used masks and gloves, into the water bodies.

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ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2806 to be answered on the 05/08/2021 regarding 'POLLUTION LEVEL IN WATER BODIES'.

Details of Polluted River Stretches identified in Odisha

S NO	NAME OF RIVER	IDENTIFIED STRETCH	BOD RANGE/ MAX VALUE (MG/L)	PRIORITY CLASS
1.	GANGUA	D/S BHUWANESHWAR	14-39	I
2.	GURADIH NALLAH	ALONG ROURKELA	11.3	III
3.	KATHAJODI	CUTTACK TO URALI	5.8-11.2	III
4.	NANDIRAJHOR	D/S TALCHER	2.7 - 13	III
5.	DAYA	BHUBANESWAR TO BARAGARH	4.0-7.3	IV
6.	KUAKHAI	URALI TO BHUBANESWAR	6.7-7.7	IV
7.	BANGURU NALLAH	ALONG TALCHER RENGALI	3.2	V
8.	BHEDEN	ALONG BHEDEN	3.6	V
9.	BRAHAMANI	ROURKELA TO BIRITOL	5.8-6.0	V
10.	BUDHABALNAGA	MAHULIA TOBARIPADA	3.5	V
11.	KUSUMI	ALONG ANGUL TALCHER	3.2	V
12.	MAHANADI	SAMBALPUR TO PARADEEP	3.6	V
13.	MANGALA	ALONG PURI	5.7	V
14.	NAGAVALLI	JAYKAYPUR TO RAYAGADA	3.5	V
15.	NUNA	ALONG BIJIPUR, PURI	3.1	V
16.	RATNACHIRA	ALONG BHUBHNESHWAR, PURI	3.3	V
17.	RUSHIKULYA	PRATAPPUR TO GANJAM	3.4	V
18.	SABULIA	ALONG JAGANNATHPATNA, RAMBHA	5.0	V
19.	SERUA	KHANDAETA TO SANKHATRASA	4.8	V

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