

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2956

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME

2956. SHRI S VENKATESAN

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

- (a) the amount of funds spent under Namami Gange Programme during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the number of times National Council for River Ganga has held meeting between FY 2015 to FY 2024;
- (c) the number of polluted river stretches identified during the last five years, year-wise;
- (d) whether a consortium of seven IITs has submitted Ganga River Basin Action Plan and if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether it is true that as per the report of 2024, the State Government of Bihar has found that the Ganges water is not safe for bathing or even for irrigating crops and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

- (a) The year-wise details of the amount released by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and amount disbursed by NMCG to various agencies for implementation of projects/ interventions to rejuvenate river Ganga and its tributaries under the Namami Gange program, in the last five years (FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24) is enclosed in **Annexure-I**.
- (b) The National Ganga Council and Empowered Task Force have been constituted as per NMCG Authority Notification No. S.O. 3187(E) dated 07th October 2016 and 2 meetings of National Ganga Council & 11 meetings of Empowered Task Force have been convened.
- (c) As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, three polluted river stretches (Priority IV/V) on River Ganga have been identified based on the assessment carried out in 2022 (2019 & 2021 data),
- (d) Yes, Sir. Seven IIT consortium submitted Ganga River Basin Action Plan (GRBMP) in September 2024. Based on the report, Government of India (GoI) launched the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) in 2014-15 for the rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries with a budgetary outlay of ₹ 20,000 crore, for five years, up to March 2021 and has been further extended to March 2026 with a budgetary outlay of ₹ 22,500 crore. Under the Namami Gange Programme, a diverse and holistic set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up that includes wastewater

treatment, solid waste management, riverfront management (ghats and crematoria), ensuring e flow, rural sanitation, afforestation, biodiversity conservation and public participation etc. The details of project-wise actions taken are enclosed in **Annexure-II**. Till June 2024, a total of 467 projects have been taken up at an estimated cost of ₹ 39,080.70 crore, out of which 292 projects have already been completed and made operational.

(e) As per the reports of State Government of Bihar, Ganges water meets bathing standards of pH, DO and BOD. Further, as per the reports of State Government of Bihar, Ganges water meets irrigation standards for various parameters. As per CPCB report 2022, the polluted river stretch on river Ganga in the State of Bihar along Buxar, Patna, Fatwah and Bhagalpur was in Priority Class – IV which as per 2023 CPCB data has improved to Bhagalpur downstream-Priority Class-V.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2956 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2024 REGARDING “NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME”.

The details of fund released by Govt. of India to NMCG and Disbursement/Release by NMCG

(₹. in crore)

F.Y.	Funds released by Government of India to NMCG	Disbursement/Release by NMCG
2019-20	1,553.40	2,673.09
2020-21	1,300.00	1,339.97
2021-22	1,900.00	1,892.70
2022-23	2,220.00	2,258.98
2023-24	2,400.00	2,396.10
Total	9,373.40	10,560.84

(* Utilization reported up to 30 June 2024)

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2956 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2024 REGARDING “NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME”.

The action taken by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under NGP to make the Ganga and its tributaries pollution-free with sustainable cleanliness are as follows:

- i. A total of 200 number of **sewerage infrastructure projects** costing ₹32,070 crore have been taken up for the creation & rehabilitation of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) with treatment capacity of 6,217.15 Million Litres per Day (MLD) including laying of 5,282.39 km long sewerage networks. Of them, 120 STPs with a capacity of 3,241.55 MLD have been completed along with 4,527.48 km long sewerage network;
- ii. For **industrial pollution abatement**, 5 nos. of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) have been sanctioned, i.e., Jajmau CETP (20 MLD), Banther CETP (4.5 MLD), Unnao CETP (2.65 MLD), Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD) and Gorakhpur CETP (7.5 MLD). Two projects, Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD) and Jajmau CETP (20 MLD), have been completed;
- iii. Annual inspection of **Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs)** operating in Ganga main-stem States and its tributaries have been undertaken since 2017. These efforts have resulted in reduction in BOD load from 26 tonnes per day (TPD) in 2017 to 13.73 TPD in 2022, and about 28.6 % reduction in effluent discharge from 349 MLD in 2017 to 249.31 MLD in 2022;
- iv. At NMCG, an on-line dashboard “**PRAYAG**” has been operationalized for continuous monitoring of river water quality; the performance of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs); etc. on the Ganga and Yamuna River;
- v. A total nos. of 139 **District Ganga Committees (DGC)** have been constituted, which conducts 4M (Monthly, Mandated, Minuted, and Monitored) meetings regularly. As of June, 2024, more than 3,032 meetings have been conducted;
- vi. In coordination with the selected DGCs, **District Ganga Plans** for 4 districts in Ramganga Basin, i.e., Udham Singh Nagar in Uttarakhand; & Shahjahanpur, Moradabad and Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, have been prepared to foster decentralized planning and better participation of people in river basin management;
- vii. For the **conservation of wetlands**, 4 projects have been sanctioned in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand at a cost of ₹12.53 crore;
- viii. NMCG, through the State Forest Department, has implemented a forestry intervention project along the main stem of river Ganga. 31,494 hectares area have been afforested with an expenditure of about ₹ 347 crore;
- ix. A total of 105 lakhs of **Indian Major Carp (IMC)** fingerlings have been reared in the Ganga since 2017 to conserve fish biodiversity and prey base for river Dolphins, and ensure the

livelihood of fishers in the Ganga basin under the special project implemented by Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI);

- x. Science-based **species restoration programme**, rescue, and rehabilitation programme for aquatic species like Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and Ghariyal in collaboration with Wild Life Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and State Forest Department, have shown marked improvements in biodiversity with increased sightings of Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and other riverine species;
- xi. **Ganga Task Force (GTF)** was raised in the state of Uttar Pradesh to assist NMCG in carrying out its mandated tasks, such as (a) Plantation of trees to check soil erosion; (b) Management of Public Awareness / Participation campaigns; (c) Patrolling of Sensitive Rivers Areas for Biodiversity protection; (d) Patrolling of Ghats, etc.
- xii. A cadre of Ganga Doots (45,000 nos.), Ganga Praharis (2,900 nos.) and Ganga Mitra (700 nos.) are involved in public **participatory activities**;
- xiii. Construction of independent household toilets in **4,507 identified** villages in the five River Ganga states has been completed. All these Ganga bank villages have now been declared open defecation-free (**ODF**). Further till date, 3,679 no's of Ganga villages have been declared ODF sustainability (**ODF Plus**).
- xiv. Comprehensive **public awareness campaigns** have undertaken to instill a sense of responsibility and engagement among the public in efforts to clean and conserve the Ganga River. These include - Ganga Utsav, NadiUtsav, regular cleanathons and plantation drives, Ghat Par Yoga, Ganga Aartis, etc. The efforts are also supported by dedicated cadres of Ganga saviours, such as Ganga Praharis, Ganga VicharManch, Ganga Doots, etc.
