

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1711

ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

CLEANING THE POLLUTED STRETCHES OF RIVERS

1711. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the condition of polluted stretches of rivers in different parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for cleaning these polluted stretches;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to adopt any mechanism to effectively monitor the steps taken for controlling the pollution and rejuvenation of all polluted stretches of rivers in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) As per the report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) published in 2022, a total of 603 rivers in the country were monitored, and it was found that a total of 311 river stretches of 279 rivers were polluted. The details of the same are available at:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdffile.php?id=UmVwb3J0RmlsZXMvMTQ5OF8xNjcyOTg4MDQ1X21lZGlhcGhvdG8xMjk5NS5wZGY=>

It is the responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies. The Govt of India provides financial and technical support to the states and ULBs under various programs like Namami Gange, National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) etc.

Central Sector Scheme 'Namami Gange' is being run by Ministry of Jal Shakti for pollution abatement in Ganga and other rivers falling in Ganga Basin. For other rivers, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme National River Conservation Plan is being run to support the efforts of States and ULBs for abatement of pollution in rivers. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs also supports the states and ULBs in creating the sewerage and treatment infrastructure.

NRCP has so far covered 57 rivers spreading over 17 States in the country with a sanctioned cost of Rs.8931.49 crore, and inter-alia, a sewage treatment capacity of 2941 million litres per day (MLD) has been created.

Under Namami Gange program, and a total of 484 projects, including 203 projects for sewage treatment of 6255 MLD and a sewer network of 5249 kilometers, have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 39604 crore, against which sewerage treatment capacity of 3327 MLD has been created so far.

(c) & (d) In compliance with the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application No.673/2018 regarding rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country, States/UTs are required to implement approved action plans for restoration of the polluted stretches in their jurisdiction as identified by CPCB and published in their report of 2018, within the stipulated timelines. As per the orders of NGT, regular review on implementation of these action plans is undertaken in the States/UTs and the same is also done at the Central level by Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.
