

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2976

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2024

GHAGGAR RIVER

†2976. KUMARI SELJA

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

- (a) whether the water of the Ghaggar River, which is passing through Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and parts of Haryana, is suitable for drinking and irrigation purposes and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the water of the said river has been tested and if so, the details thereof along with its TDS level; and
- (c) whether the said river has been found polluted/contaminated and the water is unsuitable for drinking and irrigation and if so, the details thereof along with the plan to address this issue?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) As per the last report published by CPCB in November, 2022, two polluted stretches on Ghaggar river; one stretch each in the States of Punjab and Haryana have been identified. Based on water quality monitoring results of Ghaggar river for the year 2023, CPCB has informed that Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) were observed in the range of 198-1068 miligram per litre (mg/l) in the State of Haryana and 248-2010 mg/l in Punjab. Also, Ghaggar river is found complying the Designated Best Use Water Quality Criteria for Class E (Irrigation, Industrial Cooling) during the period. Surface waters, depending upon the water quality, require conventional treatment and disinfection to make it suitable for drinking purposes.

It is the primary responsibility of States/UTs and local bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents, before discharging into recipient water bodies or land for prevention and control of pollution therein.

For conservation of rivers in the country in non-Ganga Basin, this Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan. Under the scheme, sewage treatment capacity of 15 million litres per day (MLD) was created in different towns in Punjab for conservation of Ghaggar river.

Punjab Pollution Control Board has informed that to treat waste water from the towns in the catchment of river Ghaggar, 28 STPs of total capacity 291.7 MLD have been installed and 15 STPs of 97 MLD are under construction. Haryana State Pollution Control Board has informed that sewage treatment capacity of 588 MLD has been created in river catchment in the State under the Ghaggar Action Plan.
