

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3913

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

CONSERVATION OF CAUVERY RIVER ECOSYSTEM

3913. SHRI YADUVEER WADIYAR

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

that the measures taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue of pollution and support the conservation of ecosystem along the River Cauvery?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

Rivers in the country are polluted due to discharge of untreated and partially treated domestic sewage from cities/towns and Urban Local Bodies, industrial effluent in their respective catchments, lack of dilution, dumping of wastes and other non-point sources of pollution. Rapid urbanization and industrialization have compounded the challenges. Cleaning/Rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous process. It is the primary responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies.

This Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in rivers/tributaries in Ganga basin through the Central Sector scheme of Namami Gange Program, and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers in the country.

Under NRCP, for river Cauvery, 168.93 MLD of Sewage Treatment capacity has been created in 9 towns, namely Bhiwani, Erode, Karur, Kumarapalayam, Kumbakonam, Mayiladuthurai, Pallipalayam, Trichirappalli and Trichy of Tamil Nadu and in 4 towns, namely K.R.Nagar, Kollegal, Nanjangud and Srirangapatna of Karnataka along with works of interception & diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage systems, low cost sanitation facilities, improved wood crematoria, river front development, etc.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued orders from time to time related to polluted river stretches. In Original Application No. 673/2018, in which the NGT directed that all States/UTs should prepare action plans for the rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country identified in 2018 by Central Pollution Control Board. As per the direction, the implementation of said action plans has to be reviewed at all States/UTs and the central level.

In compliance of these orders the States have got their action plan prepared and got approved from the competent authority. For monitoring, Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) has been constituted at Central level under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India. So far, 19 CMC meetings have been held.
