

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 553**

ANSWERED ON 28.11.2024

**POLLUTION STATUS OF THAMIRABARANI RIVER**

553. SHRI ROBERT BRUCE C

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the pollution status of the Thamirabarani river in Tirunelveli and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposals or schemes for cleaning and rejuvenation of the Thamirabarani river;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has any plans to rejuvenate and clean all the major rivers in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) As per the Central Pollution Control Board report published in November 2022, the stretch from Pappankulam to Arumuganeri in the river Thamirabarani has been identified as a polluted river stretch of priority IV with a Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level of 7.5 milligrams per litre.

(b) & (c) It is the responsibility of states 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 Program (NRCP) , Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) etc.

Under NRCP, the ministry had sanctioned and got executed projects for pollution abatement of Thamirabarani River at Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu between 2001 to 2007. At present, no project is under consideration in the Ministry.

(d) & (e) Central Sector Scheme "Namami Gange" is being run by Ministry of Jal Shakti for pollution abatement of river Ganga and its tributaries. While Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National River Conservation Plan" is being run to support the efforts of States and ULBs for abatement of pollution or

rivers, other than Ganga, in the country. In addition, 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 facilities that also contribute in pollution abatement of rivers.

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, a total number of 484 projects, including 203 projects for setting up 6,255 MLD capacity sewage treatment plant, and a sewer network of 5,249 kilo meter, have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.39,604 crore.

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