

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *388

ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

POLLUTION IN WATER BODIES

*388. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of water bodies across the country are facing severe pollution crisis and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to mitigate and clean these water bodies, prevent them from getting further polluted and stop pollutants from finding their way into rivers;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the industries that discharge pollutants into river Ganga across its course till it meets the sea and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against such industries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *388 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “POLLUTION IN WATER BODIES”

(a) Water bodies including rivers in the country are polluted due to discharge of untreated, partially treated domestic sewage from cities/towns, industrial effluent in their respective catchments and other non-point sources of pollution like erosion, agriculture runoff and runoff from solid waste dumping sites etc. also contribute to pollution of water bodies. Rapid urbanisation and industrialisation have compounded the challenges.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) at present monitors water quality of aquatic resources in the country in association with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) at 4736 locations including 2155 locations on Rivers, 558 on Lakes, 141 on Ponds, 102 on Tanks, 1233 Ground Water locations and 547 monitoring locations on other water bodies under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP). The water quality data of year 2023 of water bodies across the country can be accessed at: <https://cpcb.nic.in/nwmp-data-2023/>

(b) Cleaning/rejuvenation of water bodies including rivers is an ongoing 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.

For conservation of rivers, the Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of the rivers in the country through Central Sector scheme of “Namami Gange” for the rivers in Ganga basin, and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of National River Conservation Plan for other. Apart from this sewerage infrastructure is created under programs like Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

As far as Restoration of other water bodies is concerned, the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MOJS) is also implementing the scheme of Repair, Renovation, and Restoration (Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana- Har Khet Ko Pani). National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is being implemented for conservation and management of wetlands/lake in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State/UT Governments.

(c) & (d) Under Namami Gange Programme (NGP), for industrial pollution abatement, 3 nos. of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) have been sanctioned by NMCG i.e., Jajmau CETP [20 Million Liters per Day (MLD)], Banther CETP (4.5 MLD), and Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD). Out of these, two projects, Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD) and Jajmau CETP (20 MLD) have been completed;

Further to monitor industrial pollution, annual inspection of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) started in 2017 by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs/Pollution Control Committee (PCC). In seventh round of inspection, 4,246 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) have been inventoried in the 7th round of inspection. All the GPIs have been inspected. So far, out of 4,000 GPIs on which action has been completed, 2,682 GPIs are compliant, 517 are non-compliant, 523 GPIs are temporarily closed and 278 GPIs are permanently closed. Among the non-compliant (517 GPIs), 26 GPIs have been issued notice for closure and 491 GPIs have been issued show cause notice. These efforts have resulted in reduction in BOD load from 26 tons per day (TPD) in 2017 to 13.73 TPD in 2023 and about 28.6 % reduction in effluent discharge from 349 MLD in 2017 to 249.31 MLD in 2023.
