

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3257

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025

FAECAL BACTERIA IN GANGA RIVER

3257. MS SAYANI GHOSH SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA

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

- (a) the current status of pollution levels in the Ganga river including faecal pollution in the stretch from Uttarakhand to West Bengal and Rishikesh to Bihar, location-wise;
- (b) the details of the health issues occurred due to the high quantum of faecal bacteria in Ganga river and the steps taken/being taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that recent reports highlight the high levels of faecal bacteria detected in Ganga river during large spiritual gatherings, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is regularly monitoring the level of faecal bacteria in Ganga river, if so, the details and outcome thereof along with the number of times it is examined;
- (e) the current status of the campaigns being run by the Government to make the water of Ganga and other rivers of the country particularly the rivers in Rajasthan free from faecal and other bacteria along with the time by which these campaigns are likely to be assessed for their effectiveness;
- (f) the total amount of funds allocated and utilised under the Namami Gange Project for the cleaning and rejuvenation of Ganga river since inception, State/year-wise; and
- (g) the specific measures taken/being taken under the said Project to address industrial, municipal and agricultural pollution in the river and the effectiveness of these measures?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (d) Manual Water quality monitoring of River Ganga is carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) at 112 stations (Uttarakhand-19; Uttar Pradesh-41; Bihar-33; Jharkhand-04 & West Bengal-15) on fortnightly basis through concerned State Pollution Control Boards.

The State-wise data range of Physical parameters and Organic parameter, included in notified primary water quality criteria by CPCB is enclosed in **Annexure-I**.

As per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, the Polluted River Stretches (PRS) on river Ganga, are as under:

- a. Uttarakhand does not fall under polluted stretch
- b. In Uttar Pradesh, Farrukhabad to Allahabad & Mirzapur to Ghazipur in - *Priority Class V*
- c. In Bihar, along Buxar, Patna, Fatwah and Bhagalpur - *Priority Class IV*
- d. Jharkhand does not fall under polluted stretch
- e. In West Bengal, Behrampur to Haldia - *Priority Class IV*

As per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, Faecal Coliform (median) primary water quality criteria for bathing is met in the entire stretch of river Ganga in Uttarakhand & Jharkhand and certain stretches of UP, Bihar and West Bengal while Faecal Streptococci (median) the primary water quality criteria for bathing is met in the entire stretch of river Ganga in Uttarakhand, Bihar & Jharkhand and certain stretches of UP and West Bengal.

Dissolved Oxygen, which is an indicator of river health, has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river for almost the entire stretch of the river Ganga.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out water quality monitoring of river Ganga. As per the CPCB report, the polluted stretches restored in 2023 as compared to 2018, are (a) Haridwar to Sultanpur in Uttarakhand; (b) After confluence (A/c) river Pandu, Deomai, Fatehpur to Dalmau, Raebareilly in Uttar Pradesh (UP) (c) Kadaghat, Kaushambi to Dheemi, Pratapgarh in UP; (d) U/s Varanasi to Down-stream D/s Varanasi in UP (f) Buxar to Bhagalpur in Bihar and (g) Khagra Behrampur to Serampore in West Bengal.

(b) & (c) A comprehensive report dated 28.02.2025 in the matter of OA 310/2022 was submitted by the Central Pollution Control Board before Hon'ble NGT in compliance to order dated 23.12.2024 pertaining to Mahakumbh at Prayagraj. As per the referred report, median value of pH, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), BOD and Faecal Coliform (FC) for all the monitored locations was within the respective criteria/permissible limits for bathing water.

(e) National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has sanctioned, a total of 206 number of sewerage infrastructure projects costing ₹ 33,004 crores have been taken up for remediation of polluted river areas with treatment capacity of 6,335 Million Litres per Day (MLD). 127 STP projects with a capacity of 3,446 MLD have been completed and made operational. The pollution abatement infrastructure created under Namami Gange Programme has the provision of tertiary treatment (Chlorination, Ozonation etc.) for the treatment of faecal coliform and other bacteria as per the CPCB specified discharge standards. In Rajasthan, NMCG has sanctioned one project for creation of 36 MLD sewage treatment plant at a cost of ₹ 258.48 crores.

(f) The year-wise details of the amount allocated by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and amount disbursed by NMCG to various agencies for implementation of projects/interventions to abate pollution, as well as to rejuvenate river Ganga and its tributaries since inception of the Namami Gange Programme (FY 2014-15) to 03 March 2025 is at **Annexure II**.

No State-wise allocation is made under the Namami Gange programme. However, the amount disbursed to various agencies including State Missions for Clean Ganga, for implementation of projects/interventions under the Namami Gange Programme since its inception (FY 2014-15) till 03 March 2025, compiled State-wise, is at **Annexure-III**.

(g) For industrial pollution abatement, 3 nos. of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) have been sanctioned by NMCG i.e., Jajmau CETP (20 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 the industrial pollution, annual inspection of Grossly Polluting Industries) GPIs started in 2017. 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, 2,685 GPIs are compliant, 514 are non-compliant, 523 GPIs are temporarily closed, and 278 GPIs are permanently closed. Among the non-compliant (514 GPIs), 26 GPIs have been issued notice for closure and 488 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.

For agricultural pollution, NMCG is promoting 'Zero Budget Natural Farming' in Ganga Basin through various farmer's workshops.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3257 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.03.2025 REGARDING “FAECAL BACTERIA IN GANGA RIVER”.

Spatial Variability Across Stations in the State based on the median values of the Station for physical and organic parameters

State	Parameters		2024 (Jan-Nov)	
			Min	Max
Uttarakhand	Physical parameters	pH	7.4	8.1
		Dissolved Oxygen	8.2	11.6
	Organic parameters	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	1	2
Uttar Pradesh	Physical parameters	pH	7.2	8.4
		Dissolved Oxygen	6.9	10.4
	Organic parameters	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	1.2	4.5
Bihar	Physical parameters	pH	7.5	7.8
		Dissolved Oxygen	7.2	8.1
	Organic parameters	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	1.2	2.0
Jharkhand	Physical parameters	pH	7.5	7.6
		Dissolved Oxygen	7.2	7.3
	Organic parameters	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	1.2	1.5
West Bengal	Physical parameters	pH	7.2	8.0
		Dissolved Oxygen	5.4	7.1
	Organic parameters	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	1.8	2.8

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Year-wise details of the budget provisions, amount released by the Government of India to NMCG and amount disbursed by NMCG to various implementing/ executing agencies under Namami Gange Programme (FY 2014-15 to till 03 March 2025) Budget Provisions

Rs. in crores

	Financial Year	Budget Provision (Revise Estimate)	Funds released by Government of India to NMCG	Disbursement/Release by NMCG
Namami Gange Phase-I	2014-15	2,053.00	326.00	170.99
	2015-16	1,650.00	1,632.00	602.30
	2016-17	1,675.00	1,675.00	1,062.81
	2017-18	3,023.42	1,423.12	1,625.01
	2018-19	2,370.00	2,307.50	2,626.54
	2019-20	1,553.40	1,553.40	2,673.09
	2020-21	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,339.97
	Sub-Total (A)	13,624.82	10,217.02	10,100.71
Namami Gange Phase-II	2021-22	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,892.70
	2022-23	2,500.00	2,220.00	2,258.98
	2023-24	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,396.10
	2024-25	3,000.00	2,801.60	2,051.66*
		Sub-Total (B)	9,800.00	9,321.60
	Total (A+B)	23,424.82	19,538.62	18,700.15

* up to 03 March 2025

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Financial Year 2014-15 to 03 March 2025												
Sl. No.	States	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
1	Uttarakhand	4.26	37.04	44.03	242.49	328.94	122.28	124.82	147.51	111.72	144.40	82.12
2	Uttar Pradesh	74.58	153.35	585.15	550.12	823.77	876.68	472.46	450.69	707.44	820.74	999.33
3	Bihar	-	124.23	88.07	367.18	673.03	1,185.17	193.84	250.70	873.39	878.96	333.98
4	Jharkhand	0.97	27.83	49.53	21.72	86.73	30.50	28.09	13.61	4.75	32.60	97.23
5	West Bengal	73.85	185.49	117.25	245.87	227.62	70.60	105.06	134.42	255.52	150.88	229.72
6	Madhya Pradesh	-	3.39	6.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.50	39.67
7	Delhi	-	4.96	2.17	81.57	310.69	214.47	235.00	405.00	77.33	161.18	-
8	Haryana	-	30.00	52.73	6.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Rajasthan	-	-	20.00	-	1.25	-	-	50.00	-	-	-
10	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.25	2.50	-	-	-
<p>Note 1: State-wise disbursements indicated above include funds released to (i) State Missions for Clean Ganga for Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and associated infrastructure, (ii) State Forest Departments for Afforestation Projects, (iii) STP Projects implemented on Hybrid Annuity Mode, (iv) Central Public Sector Enterprises for RFD/Ghat Projects, (v) D/o Drinking Water & Sanitation and State Rural Sanitation Missions for SBM/ODF interventions in Ganga Grams and (vi) Industrial Pollution Abatement Projects.</p> <p>Note 2: Out of the above mentioned disbursement/release by the NMCG, unspent grants amounting to Rs. 824.99 crore have been refunded by various implementing/executing agencies to the Consolidated Fund of India.</p>												
