

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4445**

ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

**TOP FIVE POLLUTED RIVERS IN KERALA**

4445. DR. SHASHI THAROOR

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

- (a) the details of top five polluted rivers in Kerala in all five priority classes according to the Water Quality Management Division of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB);
- (b) whether it is true that Kerala stands at third position among the top States with the most polluted river stretches and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government would consider including any or all of these rivers in national level river cleaning projects and if so, the details thereof?

**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 details of the five most polluted river stretches (PRS) in the state of Kerala are as follows:

S. No.	River Name	Polluted River Stretch/ Location	BOD value (Milligram per litre)	Priority Class
1	Karmana	Along Aruvikara & along Moonnattumukku	10.2	III
2	Neyyar	Aruvipuram to Amaravila	6.5	IV
3	Vamanapuram	Along Vamanapuram	6.3	IV
4	Ayroor	Along Ernakulam	5.5	V
5	Kallai	Along Kallai	4.6	V
	Mamom	Along Mamam	4.6	V

- (b) Kerala has 18 PRS and stands third jointly in the list of PRS. The CPCB report regarding PRS may be accessed at:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdffile.php?id=UmVwb3J0RmlsZXMvMTQ5OF8xNjcyOTg4MDQ1X21lZGlhcGhvdG8xMjk5NS5wZGY=>

(c) Cleaning/rejuvenation of 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 (NRCP) for other rivers. Apart from this sewerage infrastructure is also created under programs like Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

Proposal for pollution abatement works in the towns along polluted river stretches are received from the State/UTs from time to time for consideration under the NRCP, and sanctioned based on their prioritization, conformity with NRCP guidelines, availability of funds, etc.

Pollution abatement work of the Pamba River at Pamba-Sabarimala town was implemented at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 18.45 crore under NRCP, and a sewage treatment capacity of 4.50 MLD (Million Litre per day) was created in Kerala. Further, the Government of India has sanctioned projects for the creation of 17.5 MLD for pollution abatement of the Chitrapuzha River at Elamkulam and 19 MLD for the Periyar River at Perandoor at a cost of Rs.47.53 crore and Rs.49.78 crore, respectively.

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