

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1136

ANSWERED ON 05.02.2026

POLLUTION LEVEL IN GANGA RIVER IN VARANASI

1136. Smt. SATABDI ROY:

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

- (a) the details of the pollution level in the Ganga River in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh since 2014, year-wise; and
(b) the details of the funds utilised for cleaning the stretch of the river in and around Varanasi since 2014, year-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The pollution status of the River Ganga is monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) through 112 water quality monitoring stations. The rivers are classified into five priority classes by CPCB as follows;

Priority Class	BOD Concentration Range (mg/L)
Priority I	> 30 (most polluted)
Priority II	20 – 30
Priority III	10 – 20
Priority IV	6 – 10
Priority V	3 – 6 (least polluted)

As per CPCB's PRS assessment reports, the observed water quality in Varanasi are as follows:

PRS Assessment Report Year	Priority Class
2015	Priority-III
2018	Priority-IV
2022	Priority-V
2025	Priority-V

(b) Funds have been disbursed to the following agencies in the state of Uttar Pradesh, for implementation of projects/interventions in Varanasi under the Namami Gange Programme since its inception (FY 2014-15) till 19 January 2026:

Implementing Agencies	Purpose
State Mission for Clean Ganga	Setting up and maintenance of sewerage infrastructures
Concessionaires of STP Project at Varanasi implemented in Hybrid Annuity Mode	Setting up and maintenance of sewerage infrastructures
Varanasi Nagar Nigam	Cleaning of ghats & Cleaning of river surface through trash skimmer at Varanasi
Indian Institute of Technology Varanasi	Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers
National Mission for Clean Ganga	Removal of pollutants from drains through installation of advanced oxidation process

Further, the year-wise expenditure in Varanasi since 2014, for activities indicated above, as provided by the State Mission for Clean Ganga-Uttar Pradesh, is given below:

Year	Year-wise expenditure (in Cr.)
2014	0.00
2015	170.16
2016	82.98
2017	125.93
2018	139.59
2019	37.05
2020	70.79
2021	60.01
2022	62.64
2023	13.71
2024	17.36
2025	77.16
Total	857.38
