GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3783
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

Funds for Conservation of Rivers

3783. SHRI SUNIL BOSE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the reports concerning the discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage from urban areas situated along the Cauvery (Kaveri) and Kabini rivers into the respective river bodies, leading to severe water pollution;
(b) if so, the specific cities and towns that have been identified as major contributors to this pollution and the quantity of sewage (in MLD) being discharged into these rivers;
(c) the measures taken by the Government to address this issue, including the installation of Sewage Treatment Plants and the implementation of proper sewage networks in the concerned urban local bodies; and
(d) the details of total funds sanctioned and released for the conservation and rejuvenation of the Cauvery and Kabini rivers, specifically for pollution abatement projects, during the last three financial years, along with the progress of utilisation of these funds?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (d)
CPCB in association with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees monitors water quality of aquatic resources at 4922 locations under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP).

The water quality data for the monitored locations on River Cauvery under NWMP in the state of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in year 2024 is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

The water quality data for the monitored locations on River Kabini under NWMP in the state of Karnataka in year 2024 is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Based on the comparative assessment of polluted river stretches (PRS) identified in year 2016 and 2017, the PRS have been identified in year 2018.

- The stretch of River Cauvery from Ranganathittu to Sathyamangalam Bridge was identified as PRS under Priority Class-IV in the state of Karnataka and
- The stretch of river Cauvery from Metur to Mayiladuthurai which was identified as PRS under Priority Class-I in the state of Tamil Nadu.

- River Kabini was identified as PRS under Priority Class-IV from Nanjanagud to Hejjige in Karnataka.
- As per the latest report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on Polluted River Stretches, (2025), the Kabini River has no polluted stretches in Kerala.

Based on the assessment of water quality data for the year 2022 and 2023, the polluted river stretches have been identified in year 2025.

- In Karnataka, River Cauvery has been identified as PRS under Priority Class-III from downstream of KR Nagar Bridge to Confluence of Sangam.
- In Tamil Nadu, River Cauvery has been identified as PRS under Priority Class-II at Erode near Virapalayam to Pitchavaram.
- In Karnataka, River Kabini has been identified as PRS under Priority Class-V from Saragur village downstream to water supply intake point to Narasipura town.

As per information provided by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, based on the monitoring results, appropriate directions are issued to the concerned Urban Local Bodies and authorities to ensure proper collection, conveyance and treatment of municipal sewage through sewerage systems and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). Local Bodies including, Erode City Municipal Corporation, Karur Municipal Corporation, Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation, Thanjavur Municipality, Kumbakonam Municipality, Pallipalayam Municipality, Rasipuram Municipality, Kumarapalayam Municipality and Dharmapuri Municipality have established Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treatment of municipal sewage generated within their jurisdiction, to ensure treatment of municipal sewage before entering into the water bodies. The operation of those STPs is regularly monitored by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board through the consent mechanism and periodic and surprise inspections. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has instructed those Local Bodies to install Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) in the STPs for real-time monitoring of treated sewage quality and to ensure compliance with the prescribed environmental standards.

For establishments generating sewage and falling under the consent requirements of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, periodic compliance monitoring is carried out to ensure adherence to prescribed standards. In the catchment area of river Kabani, at Kalpatta, a Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) with a capacity of 0.01 MLD is presently operational.

Karnataka State government formed a Technical Expert Committee in 2024 to address pollution in the Cauvery River and Kabini River. The committee studied sewage sources contributing to the pollution and recommended both short-term and long-term corrective measures for relevant stakeholders. The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has filed criminal cases against the Mysuru City Corporation and Mysuru Development Authority for releasing untreated sewage into the rivers. Additionally, notices were issued to local Gram Panchayat in the river catchment areas directing them not to discharge untreated wastewater into stormwater drains or canals that flow into these rivers.

Further, the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the enforcement of environmental regulations and control of water pollution in the country are given below:

1. CPCB directed all SPCBs/PCCs under Section 18(1) (b) of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to direct concerned agencies in the State/UT to develop infrastructure for sewage treatment.

2. CPCB issued directions under Section 5 of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Municipal Corporations of 46 Metropolitan cities and 20 State Capitals for Treatment and Utilization of Sewage for Restoration of Water Quality of River.
3. CPCB issued directions under section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act, 1974 to all SPCBs/PCCs for installation of Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) for self-surveillance of Sewage Treatment Plants.

As per information provided by National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS), No funds have been sanctioned or released for the conservatíon and rejuvenation of the Cauvery River and Kabini River, specifically for pollution abatement projects, during the last three financial years under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP).

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Annexure-I

Water quality data for the monitored locations on River Cauvery under NWMP in the state of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in year 2024

Monitoring Location	State Name	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Cauvery D/S At Kanive Ramalingeswara Temple Bridge, Kushalanagar	Karnataka	6.5	7.8	6.9	8.4	1	3	1.8	68
River Cauvery At Kushal Nagar U/S (Near Baichanahalli)	Karnataka	6.3	7.8	7	8.2	1	3	25	110
River Cauvery D/S Of Kushalanagar Town	Karnataka	6.4	7.9	6.9	8.9	1	3	24	63
River Cauvery D/S At Kondanagiri Bridge	Karnataka	6.6	7.8	6.8	8.4	1	2	17	68
River Cauvery D/S Of At Bethri Bridge , Murnad	Karnataka	6.5	7.8	6.9	8.1	1	2.5	21	81
River Cauvery D/S Of At Nellu Dikeri Bridge, Siddapura	Karnataka	6.4	7.7	7	8	1	3	17	78
River Cauvery D/S Of At Dubare, Hanging Bridge (Theppa Da Kindi)	Karnataka	6.8	7.9	7.1	8.1	1	2.1	17	84
River Cauvery At Balmavati Bridge To Thandra Hole Tributary	Karnataka	7.1	8	6.9	7.7	1	1.6	20	40
River Cauvery D/S At Bhagamandala Bridge	Karnataka	6.7	8.2	7	8.1	1	2.1	17	40
River Cauvery At Napokulu Bdg (D/S)	Karnataka	6.9	8.4	7	8.2	1	2	20	40
Kootu Hole At Water Supply Intake Point To Madikeri Town	Karnataka	6.6	8.1	6.9	8.1	1	2.5	17	83
River Cauvery At Ajjibore (Bangalore)	Karnataka	7.2	8.2	8.08	8.7	1	1.7	14	79

Monitoring Location	State Name	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Cauvery At Karighatta Nimishamba Temple Road Bridge Srirangapatna,Maydya	Karnataka	6	6.9	7.6	8.6	2	4.5	110	1400
River Cauvery Atganjam Water Supply Intake Point Near Gosai Ghat, Srirangapatna,Maydya	Karnataka	6.5	7.4	7.6	8.4	1	3	82	140
River Cauvery At Mahadevpura Road Bridge,Maydya	Karnataka	5.4	6.8	7.6	8.7	2	5	110	450
River Cauvery At Ganjam Water Supply Intake Point Near Gosai Ghat, Srirangapatna	Karnataka	6.5	7.5	7.5	8.5	1	2.5	92	140
River Cauvery At Krs Dam, Balamurikshetra	Karnataka	6.5	7.2	7.7	8.6	1.2	2.5	68	120
River Cauvery At Krs Dam Mandya	Karnataka	6.5	7.3	7.6	8.6	1	2.3	61	120
River Cauvery At Ranganathittu	Karnataka	6	7	7.7	8.5	1.6	4	83	210
River Cauvery At D/S Of Karekuara Village	Karnataka	6	7.2	7.7	8.6	1.2	4	78	170
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake Point To Srirangapatna Town	Karnataka	5.1	6.9	7.6	8.5	1.9	5	93	260
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake Point To Mandya Town	Karnataka	5.4	6.9	7.6	8.5	1.8	5	100	270
River Cauvery At Sri Rangapattanna, D/S Of Road Bdg.	Karnataka	5.1	6.8	7.5	8.5	2	6	120	390
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake	Karnataka	6.4	7.5	6.9	8.6	1	3	61	170

Monitoring Location	State Name	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ML	
Point At Tore Kadana Halli									
River Cauvery D/S Of Maddur Water Supply Treatment Plant At Bachalli	Karnataka	5.9	7.5	7.7	8.5	1	3.5	61	140
River Cauvery At Bannur Bridge	Karnataka	6.2	7.3	7.2	8.6	1.2	3.1	14	240
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake Point To Mysore	Karnataka	6.7	7.5	7.7	8.6	1	2.1	61	93
River Cauvery U/S Of Kr Nagar	Karnataka	6.8	7.5	7.5	8.6	1	2.2	61	120
River Cauvery D/S Of Kr Nagar Bridge	Karnataka	6.7	7.3	7.6	8.4	1	2.5	78	170
River Cauvery D/S Bharachuki Falls, Sathegala, Kollegala	Karnataka	6.5	7.7	7.6	8.5	1	2.5	68	93
River Cauvery At Sathyagalam Bridge	Karnataka	6.2	6.9	7.6	8.5	1.9	3.5	92	170
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake Point At Kollegala Dasanapura	Karnataka	6.1	6.9	7.6	8.5	1.9	4	92	210
River Cauvery At Water Supply Intake Point At Shivansamudra	Karnataka	6.4	7.5	7.7	8.6	1	3	68	140
River Cauvery Before Confluence At Sangam	Karnataka	4.9	7	7.2	8.5	4	8	4.5	2200
River Cauvery At Mettur	Tamil Nadu	5.4	6.6	7.65	8.36	1	2.7	6.8	59
River Bhavani At Bhavani, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	4.5	6.6	7.24	8.64	2.1	2.9	11	40
River Cauvery At Erode U/S	Tamil Nadu	4.9	6.8	7.17	7.93	1.6	2.9	11	37
River Cauvery At Erode Near	Tamil Nadu	4.6	6.8	6.93	8.29	2	3.2	11	75

Monitoring Location	State Name	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ML	
Virapalayam, Tamilnadu									
River Cauvery At Bhawani D/S	Tamil Nadu	4.7	6.9	7.04	8.64	1.3	2.8	11	47
River Cauvery At Urrachikottai, Erode, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.8	7.1	6.45	8.62	1.8	2.9	12	40
River Cauvery At Pallipalayam D/S	Tamil Nadu	5.5	7.4	7.78	8.15	1	3	14	36
River Cauvery At Pallippalayam	Tamil Nadu	4.4	6.3	7.55	8.36	1.8	3.6	14	148
River Cauvery Locations At Kumarapalayam	Tamil Nadu	5.2	7.4	7.58	8.1	1	3.6	14	177
River Cauvery At Kumarapalayam U/S	Tamil Nadu	5.2	7.6	7.54	8.52	1	3.2	14	66
River Cauvery At Komarapalayam, Namakal, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.6	6.9	7.57	8.2	1	3.6	14	68
River Cauvery At Seerapalayam, Namakal, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.5	6.5	7.76	8.25	1	2.7	12	66
River Cauvery Atparamathy Velore Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.4	7.2	7.53	8.33	1	3.9	12	59
River Cauvery At Mohanur Near Pattaipalayam, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.4	7.7	7.95	8.9	1	3.6	12	120
River Cauvery At Karur U/S	Tamil Nadu	6	6.8	7.53	8.9	2.1	2.6	2	20
River Cauvery At Thirumukkudal-Confl. Pt.Of R. Amravati, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.6	7	7.14	7.9	2.1	2.9	6.1	14
River Cauvery At Pugalur, Karur, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6	7	7.33	8.18	2.1	3	2	816
River Cauvery At Musiri	Tamil Nadu	5.8	8.1	7.16	8.7	1.4	2.4	1.8	21

Monitoring Location	State Name	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing		> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Cauvery At Tiruchirappalli U/S, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.9	7.6	7.48	8.3	1.4	2.8	2	17
River Cauvery At Pettaivaithalai, Trichy, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.4	7.6	7.39	8.12	1	2.6	4.6	21.2
River Cauvery At Tiruchirappalli D/S, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.5	7.5	7.44	8.17	1.5	2.7	5.6	95.7
River Cauvery At Trichy, Grand Anaicut, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.4	7.5	7.29	8.13	1	2.4	4	19
River Cauvery At Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.1	7.9	7.14	7.96	1.3	2.5	11	95.7
River Cauvery At Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	4	5.4	7.65	8.59	3	10	28	88.1
River Cauvery At Mayiladuthurai D/S	Tamil Nadu	4	5.2	7.56	9.12	6	9	23	435.2
River Cauvery At Coleroon, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.6	6.8	7.81	8.28	2.4	8	17	95
River Cauvery At Pitchavaram, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	5.4	6.7	7.72	8.23	2.2	6	9.2	38
River Cauvery At Karuthattanudi Thanjavur, Tamilnadu	Tamil Nadu	6.8	7.4	7.4	7.82	1.2	1.8	10	21.2

Annexure-II

The water quality data for the monitored locations on River Kabini under NWMP in the state of Karnataka in year 2024

Monitoring Location	Dissolved O_2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Criteria for Outdoor Bathing	> 5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		< 2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Kabini At Cause Way Sattur	6.2	7.3	7.1	8.3	1.8	3.5	91	210
River Kabini At Saragur Village D/S	5.9	7	7.1	8.5	1.5	4	91	170
River Kabini At Water Intake Of Kiadb At Nanjangud	6.6	7.6	7	8.2	1	2.5	61	93
River Kabini At Bathing Ghat, Nanjanagud	5.8	6.9	7	8.2	2	5	120	450
River Kabini U/S Intake Point To Nanjanagud & Gundlupet At Debur	5.3	7.1	7.2	8.2	1.6	3.8	91	170
River Kabini At Water Supply Intake Point To T. Narasipura	5.2	6.9	7.1	8.2	2	6	110	630

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