

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 516
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

Pollution Control Research Institute

516. SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR

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

- (a) whether the Pollution Control Research Institute has carried out/proposed to carry out in-depth study in respect of increasing pollution in Yamuna, Ganga, Saraswati and other rivers;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof along with the recommendations made in above study;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the effective steps being taken by the Government to check the increasing pollution in holy rivers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d)

The Pollution Control Research Institute in Haridwar (Uttarakhand) has informed that they have not carried out any comprehensive study on increasing pollution in major rivers of the country.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with Pollution Control Boards/Committees in different States/Union Territories (UTs), have been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWQMP). At present, the network consists of 4484 locations spread in 28 States and 7 Union Territories including 2108 locations on 719 rivers. Based on water quality monitoring results, pollution assessment of rivers is carried out by CPCB from time to time.

Cleaning/rejuvenation of rivers is an ongoing activity. It is the responsibility of the States/UTs and local bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into rivers and other water bodies, coastal waters or land to prevent and control of pollution therein. For conservation of rivers, Ministry of Jal Shakti supplements efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for

abatement of pollution in identified stretches of rivers in the country through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange for rivers in Ganga basin and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers

As per the Provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units are required to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and treat their effluents to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into rivers and water bodies. Accordingly, CPCB, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under provisions of these Acts.
