

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2538  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012  
POLLUTION OF RIVERS  
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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the rivers like Cauvery and Tungabhadra continue to be polluted as ever;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to reduce pollution in these rivers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) & (b) Based on the water quality monitoring of various rivers in the country carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board, 150 polluted stretches have been identified. These include two stretches along river Cauvery and three along Tungabhadra river.
- (c) & (d) The National River Conservation Plan presently covers 41 rivers in 191 towns spread over 20 States, including Cauvery and Tungabhadra. Various pollution abatement schemes taken up under the Plan, inter-alia, include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and river front development. For river Cauvery and Tungabhadra; treatment capacity of 156 and 25 million litres per day (mld) have been created respectively.