

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:98
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013
CLEANING OF RIVERS UNDER NRCP
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the rivers being cleaned under National River Conservation Plan;
- (b) the number of cities covered under the said scheme, State-wise including Rajasthan;
- (c) the names of the rivers whose water quality has improved till date; and
- (d) the details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) presently covers 42 rivers in 195 towns spread over 20 States. The State-wise details of rivers/towns covered under NRCP, including Rajasthan, are given at Annexure.

(c) Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in rivers through the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). Despite significant increase in urbanization, industrialization and growth in population in towns along the banks of rivers, the water quality in terms of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand values for major rivers is reported to have improved as compared to the water quality before taking up pollution abatement works under NRCP, based on independent monitoring undertaken by reputed institutions. However, the levels of bacterial contamination in terms of fecal coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of locations.

(d) During the last three years, funds amounting to Rs.1113.01 crore have been released by the Ministry and expenditure of Rs.1756.80 crore (including State share) has been incurred by the State Governments for implementation of sanctioned works under the NRCP.