

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2572  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2015  
CLEANING OF WATER BODIES  
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the current status of pollution levels of Adayar, river Buckingham Canal and Cooum River in Chennai along with the measures taken for their rejuvenation;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to supplement the efforts of the State Government to rejuvenate these rivers and the canal by funding the projects; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
(PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) The stretches of rivers Adyar and Cooum along Chennai has been identified as polluted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). As per the CPCB Report of 2010, the BOD values were 43 mg/l for Adyar river and 105 mg/l for Cooum river. Buckingham canal is not included in the list of 150 polluted river stretches identified by CPCB.

(b)&(c) Yes, Madam. It is the responsibility of the State Governments/concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers, thereby polluting them. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in pollution abatement in identified stretches of various rivers through the centrally sponsored scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for implementation of projects on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. Under this Scheme, Conservation and pollution abatement of rivers Adyar and Cooum rivers at Chennai through interception & diversion of sewage, creation of sewage treatment plants, crematoria etc. have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 404.25 crore under NRCP and sewage treatment capacity of 264 million litres per day (mld) in 4 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) has been created in the city.