

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:927

ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014

CONSERVATION OF RIVERS

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

- (a) the pollution level of various rivers in the country, river-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received proposals from various States for protection and conservation of rivers in their respective States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, river and State-wise including Rajasthan, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab;
- (d) the action taken by the Government on each of the proposals and the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in collaboration with respective States for checking and abatement of river pollution?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has identified 150 polluted stretches along various rivers in the country based on BOD (Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand) levels, a key indicator of organic pollution. The details of polluted river stretches in various States is at Annexure-I.

(b) & (e) 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 identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NGRBA (National Ganga River Basin Authority) programmes, for implementation of projects on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. Proposals are received from the State Governments, including Rajasthan, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, from time to time for taking up various pollution abatement works in towns along identified stretches of polluted rivers under the NRCP & NGRBA programmes and sanctioned by this Ministry after due appraisal on the basis of the prescribed Guidelines as well as availability of budget allocations under these programmes.

NRCP & NGRBA programmes presently cover 42 rivers in 199 towns spread over 21 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 10716.45 crores. Till end of March 2014, Rs.5097.50 crore have been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes and 1193 schemes out of 1430 sanctioned schemes have been completed under NRCP & NGRBA programmes. Sewage treatment capacity of 4957.98 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far under the two programmes. State-wise details of sanctioned cost of projects and funds released under NRCP & NGRBA is at Annexure-II.

In addition, State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocations, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including setting up of sewage treatment plants, in various towns under other Central sector schemes like JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) and UIDSSMT (Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns) of Ministry of Urban Development.