

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3904
ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019

CLEANING OF GANGA RIVER

3904. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY

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

- (a) the length in kilometers of Ganga river which has been cleaned in each State of the country under the Namami Gange Mission till date along with the technology used for the purpose;
- (b) the quantum of expenditure incurred under the said Mission and the reasons for not cleaning the whole river so far; and
- (c) the action the Government has taken or proposes to take to clean the entire Ganga river at the earliest?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b) Under the Namami Gange programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out the water quality monitoring of river Ganga. Comparison of recent observed water quality indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Due to various pollution abatement initiatives taken by the Government, under the Namami Gange Programme, the river Ganga water quality assessment in 2018 has shown improved water quality trend as compared to 2017. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 39 locations, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 42 and 47 locations, respectively.

Some stretches, where the improvement has been observed are:

- (i) Down stream (D/s) Rishikesh
- (ii) Har-Ki- Pauri Ghat
- (iii) Kanpur Up stream (U/s) (Ranighat)

- (iv) Tarighat (Ghazipur)
- (v) Narora (Bulandsahar)
- (vi) Kachhla Ghat, Aligarh
- (vii) Buxar
- (viii) Mokama (D/S)
- (ix) U/S Munger
- (x) Uluberia
- (xi) Dakshineshwar
- (xii) Diamond Harbour

An amount of Rs.5,448.99 crore has been spent against the total released amount of Rs.6,819.27 crore from 2011-12 to 2018-19 (till 30th November 2018).

Under Namami Gange Programme, variety of coordinated activities meant for cleaning of river Ganga have been taken up. So far, a total of 254 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.24,672 crore, out of which 75 projects have been completed and made operational. Against the estimated sewage generation of 2953 Million Litres Per Day (MLD) from the towns along main stem of river Ganga, the sewage treatment capacity in the towns along river Ganga has increased from 1305 MLD (2014) to 1822 MLD. Further, projects for creation of 819 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity are at advanced stages of completion. In addition, projects for creation of 731.5 MLD are under tendering process after approval.

All the sewerage projects funded by NMCG are carried out by different proven technologies, as suitable.

(c) Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the state governments in addressing the pollution of river Ganga by providing financial assistance to the states. Namami Gange Programme is an umbrella programme which integrates previous and currently ongoing initiatives by enhancing efficiency, extracting synergies and supplementing them with comprehensive and better coordinated interventions.

For pollution abatement and river rejuvenation, various projects of sewerage infrastructure, bioremediation, modular STPs, rural sanitation, industrial pollution abatement, river front development, construction of ghats and crematoria development, ghat cleaning, river surface cleaning, afforestation & biodiversity conservation, composite ecological task force and capacity building have been taken up under Namami Gange Programme.