

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA  
REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2546**

ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

**POLLUTION OF RIVERS**

2546                      SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the States responsible for pollution of rivers in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to deter the States from polluting rivers; and
- (c) the details of States that have been fined for polluting rivers during the last five years along with the fine levied, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI  
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

**(a) & (b)** Rivers in the country are polluted due to discharge of untreated and partially treated domestic sewage from cities/towns and Urban Local Bodies, industrial effluents in their respective catchments, problems in operation and maintenance of sewage and industrial effluent treatment plants, lack of dilution and other non-point sources of pollution. Rapid urbanization and industrialization have compounded the problem.

As per the last report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in September 2018, 351 polluted stretches were identified on 323 rivers based on monitoring results in terms of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), an indicator of organic pollution. However, in 2019 and 2021, CPCB has identified 311 polluted river stretches on 279 rivers. State-wise detail is at **Annexure**.

Water is a State subject, and it is the responsibility of the States/UTs to ensure the cleanliness and development of rivers within their jurisdiction. Cleaning of rivers is a continuous process and Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State/UT Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of rivers by providing financial and technical assistance. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NamamiGange program, pollution abatement works relating to interception & diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage system, setting up sewage treatment plant (STP), low cost sanitation, river front/bathing ghat development, etc are sanctioned on cost sharing basis between the Central and State/UT Governments. So far, under NRCP, pollution abatement works have been implemented on 36 rivers in 80 towns, spread over 16 States in the country at a total sanctioned cost of Rs.6248.16 crore, and inter-alia, a

sewage treatment capacity of 2745.7 million liters per day (MLD) has been created. Under the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange program, 406 projects, including 176 projects for sewage treatment of 5270 MLD and a sewer network of 5214 km, have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.32898 crore against which sewerage treatment capacity of 1858 MLD has been created so far.

In addition, sewerage infrastructure is created under other programs such as Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

As per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units are required to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and treat their effluents to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into river and water bodies. Accordingly, CPCB, SPCBs and PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take punitive action for non-compliance under provisions of these Acts.

Besides all the above efforts, in compliance of the orders of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application No.673/2018 regarding rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country, States/UTs are required to implement approved action plans for restoration of the polluted stretches in their jurisdiction as identified by the CPCB and published in their 2018 report, within the stipulated timelines. As per the orders of the NGT, regular review of the implementation of action plans is undertaken in the States/UTs and also at the Central level.

**(c) Central Government has not levied fine on State Governments for polluting rivers.**

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2546 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22.12.2022 ON 'POLLUTION OF RIVERS'**

State/UT wise polluted river stretches (PRS) details are as below:-

S No.	STATE/UNION TERRITORY	Total No. of PRS in 2018	Total No. of PRS in 2022
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	5	3
2	ASSAM	44	10
3	BIHAR	6	18
4	CHHATTISGARH	5	6
5	DAMAN & DIU, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	1	1
6	DELHI	1	1
7	GOA	11	6
8	GUJARAT	20	13
9	HARYANA	2	3
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	7	9
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR	9	8
12	JHARKHAND	7	9
13	KARNATAKA	17	17
14	KERALA	21	18
15	MADHYA PRADESH	22	19
16	MAHARASHTRA	53	55
17	MANIPUR	9	13
18	MEGHALAYA	7	7
19	MIZORAM	9	3
20	NAGALAND	6	4
21	ODISHA	19	7
22	PUDUCHERRY	2	3
23	PUNJAB	4	5
24	RAJASTHAN	2	14
25	TAMIL NADU	6	10
26	TELANGANA	8	9
27	TRIPURA	6	1
28	UTTAR PRADESH	12	17
29	UTTARAKHAND	9	9
30	WEST BENGAL	17	13
31	SIKKIM	4	-
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>351</b>	<b>311</b>

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