

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2533

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015

Expansion of Rivers

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

- (a) the expenditure incurred for the expansion of rivers during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether despite implementation of schemes, chemical and toxic effluents are being discharged in to the rivers from chemical and other factories at various places;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the mechanism in place for monitoring the quality of river water and level of pollution and the progress made to achieve the targets of the action plan in this regard, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) It is the responsibility of the State Governments/ concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers thereby polluting them. This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NGRBA (National Ganga River Basin Authority) programmes. The NGRBA programme along with work of Ganga & its tributaries is with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation from 01/08/2014 onwards. The programmes of NRCP & NGRBA (till 01/08/2014) have covered polluted stretches of 42 rivers in 199 towns spread over 21 States at a sanctioned cost of ` 11212.33 crore so far. Sewage treatment capacity of 5084 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far under these two programmes. The details of funds released to various State Governments for implementation of sanctioned works under NRCP/NGRBA programmes during the last three years and current year, State-wise are at Annexure.

Proposals for conservation of rivers received from the State Governments from time to time are considered for financial assistance under NRCP and NGRBA based on pollution status, conformity with the guidelines of the respective programmes and availability of funds.

The Government has in 2014 also initiated an Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission - 'Namami Gange' under the NGRBA programme for consolidating the ongoing efforts & planning for an integrated and comprehensive action plan for rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries.

(b) to (d) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) is assessing the river water quality at 1275 locations in the country. As per CPCB, most of the chemical manufacturing industry sectors like Chlor-alkali, Pesticides, Pharmaceuticals, Petrochemicals, Dye & Dye Intermediates, Inorganic chemicals and Organic chemicals have provided adequate treatment system for effluent treatment and the chemical industries are allowed to discharge treated effluent either on inland surface water or land for irrigation after meeting the norms.

Standards for compliance for different industrial sectors have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective SPCBs/PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluents discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To improve the monitoring of compliance, directions have been issued by CPCB to specific industries to install online 24x7 effluent and emission monitoring devices. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste and no waste concept leading to Zero Liquid Discharge by grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.
