

(Protection) Act, 1986; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; etc. State Pollution Control Boards have been asked to prepare city-specific plans. Out of 94 non-attainment cities, action plans have been received for 71 cities.

The government has formulated National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long term time bound pan India strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. The overall objective is comprehensive management of air quality for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting and evolving effective ambient air quality monitoring network across the country. The NCAP focuses on collaborative and participatory approach covering all sources of pollution and coordination between relevant Central Ministries, State Governments, local bodies and other stakeholders. Hundred (100) non-attainment cities, have been selected for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP.

**Improvement of water quality and prevention of pollution
in rivers of Andhra Pradesh**

520. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified any stretch of rivers that are flowing in Andhra Pradesh with a view to improve water quality and to prevent further pollution under National River Conservation programme (NRCP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the water quality of the polluted stretches of rivers; and

(d) the funds earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) is monitoring the water quality of rivers on a regular basis. As per a report published by CPCB in February, 2015, the stretches of river Godavari (Rayanpeta to Rajahmundry), river Hundri (Laxmipuram to Joharruram), river Krishna (Amravathi to Hamsala Deevi), river Tungabhadra (Manthralayam to Bavapuram), river Pennar (Tadpatri to Nellore), and river Kundu (Nandyal to Madduru) in Andhra Pradesh have been identified as polluted based on Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level in rivers, a key indicator of organic pollution.

(c) and (d) 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. The Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in pollution abatement of various rivers through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), which is being implemented on cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Governments.

For pollution abatement of river Godavari at Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh, schemes pertaining to interception and diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plant, low cost sanitation, river front development and crematoria have been implemented at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 21.79 crore and sewage treatment capacity of 30 mld (million litres per day) has been created in the town under the NRCP.

CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, regarding setting up of sewage treatment plants and utilization of sewage generated in their respective States. CPCB has also issued directions in October, 2015 to 66 municipal authorities of metropolitan cities and State capitals under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated to control pollution in rivers.

Further, to control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees monitor industries with respect to effluent 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 monitoring devices. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste concept in grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.

A budget allocation of ₹ 173.50 crore has been made in the current financial year 2018-19 for taking up river pollution abatement works in various States under NRCP. However, during the last three years, no proposal has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for financial assistance for pollution abatement works in identified polluted river stretches under NRCP.