

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Union Territories</b>						
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	34	34	0	0	0
2.	Chandigarh	1	1	0	0	0
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	0	0	0
4.	Daman and Diu	2	1	0	1	0
5.	Lakshadweep	9	6	3	0	0
6.	Puducherry	4	2	0	0	1
TOTAL (UTs)		51	45	3	1	11
GRAND TOTAL		6584	4520	681	253	1034

#### Measures to save rivers from drying up

2861. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of names of rivers in the country that have already dried up and the number of other rivers which are showing signs of drying;
- (b) the reasons for decaying of rivers and its overall impact on ecology, environment, agriculture, drinking water and other aspect of socio-economic life; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to prevent drying of rivers and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):

(a) to (c) There are two types of rivers in the country - perennial rivers, in which water remains available throughout the year and non-perennial rivers, which are rain-fed rivers and in which water flows only during the rainfall period. Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation carries out hydrological observation on all important/major rivers in the country. On the basis of information available in CWC, considering annual average flows of last 20 years, no major increasing/decreasing trend in water availability has been observed in major rivers of the country.

The flow in the river is dynamic and depends on many parameters such as rainfall, its distribution and intensity in the catchment, health of catchment area, vegetation and withdrawals/utilization of water. The decaying of rivers may be due to various factors such as excessive extraction of ground and surface water, inadequate recharge of surface and ground water sources due to insufficient rains, climatic change, river pollution, etc. These factors can adversely affect ecology, environment, agriculture, drinking water and other aspects of socio-economic life.

Water being a State subject, steps for augmentation, conservation and efficient management to ensure sustainability of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of State Governments, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes.

The Government of India has taken a number of initiatives for river development/rejuvenation. The work of development of River Ganga and its tributaries is undertaken by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation under National Mission for Clean Ganga. The development work for rest of the rivers is undertaken by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change under the National River Conservation Plan on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Government on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments.

Government of India has constituted an expert group under the chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), NITI Aayog consisting of Secretaries of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare to examine the draft policy recommendations for revitalization of rivers in India submitted by Isha Foundation and workout an action plan for the Government. Subsequently, Department of Rural Development has prepared programme for action "River Rejuvenation under MNREGS" and the same has been forwarded by NITI Aayog to Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all States/UTs.

A National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development has been formulated by MoWR, RD and GR for transfer of water from surplus river basins to water deficit river basins.