

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to develop a technology for its reuse after conservation and purification; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject and Government of India assists States by providing financial and technical assistance to provide potable water to rural population through centrally sponsored scheme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Powers to plan, approve, and implement rural water supply (schemes) is vested with States. The states may take up various treatment systems for water purification plants like Activated Carbon Filter, Reverse Osmosis, Ozonation, Ultra Violet (UV) system etc. depending upon the quality of water to be treated and the budget available for that purpose.

This Department has informed all States/UTs during 2015-16 regarding the provisions of Bureau of India Standards (BIS) IS-16240:2015 that Reverse Osmosis (RO) Technology is in general applicable only when total dissolved solids contents in drinking water sources is very high and reject water control mechanisms shall be provided as part of the Integrated RO water system to regulate the flow of reject water.

As informed by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No.134 of 2015 has directed Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue appropriate notification prohibiting use of RO where TDS in water is less than 500 mg/l and wherever RO is permitted, a requirement is laid down for recovery of water be more than 60%.

Inadequacy of ecological flows notification

2321. SHRI A. MOHAMMEDJAN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that we are still far from cleaning the river and the ecological flows notification in this regard is quite inadequate;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is considering to take any other concrete steps to clean river Ganga; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (d) Government of India, *vide* Notification dated 9th October 2018, has notified minimum environmental flows to be maintained in river Ganga from its origin to Unnao in Uttar Pradesh. The notified environmental flow regime is monitored and supervised by the Central Water Commission.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) in the Standards Terms of Reference (ToR) for conducting the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for any proposed River Valley and Hydroelectric Project have mentioned the norms for release of Environmental flows which is 30% in monsoon season, 20% in lean season and 25% in non-monsoon and non-lean season to be followed corresponding to flow of 90% dependable year. These norms along with the site specific requirements for environment flow releases as per the studies are then stipulated in the Environment Clearance (EC) letter for compliance.

With regards to the monitoring of the e-flow releases, the Regional offices of MoEF & CC and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with the State Pollution Control Boards concerned have been mandated for monitoring of all the environmental aspects of the Hydro Power Projects.

Cleaning of river is a continuous process and under Namami Gange programme the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.

Under Namami Gange Programme, diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up. These include pollution abatement activities including sewage treatment, industrial effluent management, ghat & river surface cleaning, river front development, rural sanitation, aviral dhara, afforestation, biodiversity conservation, public participation etc.

So far, a total of 305 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 28,613.75 crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and made operational, rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation.

In order to avoid disposal of untreated sewage into river Ganga and its tributaries,

under Namami Gange programme, till September, 2019, 150 Sewerage infrastructure projects have been taken up with a sanctioned cost of ₹ 23,130.95 crore for creation of new capacity 3731.14 Million Litre Per day (MLD), rehabilitation of 1114.39 MLD capacity and laying of around 4972.35 KM sewerage network.

Constitution of committees for cleaning river Ganga

2322. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted several committees comprising of IITians and experts and concluded that 'aviralta' is a matter of great importance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government gives first priority to cleaning of river Ganga and the second priority to ecology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) prepared by consortium of 7 IITs and other technical institutes has identified 'Aviralata' as one of the areas to be taken up in Mission mode to restore "wholesomeness" of National River Ganga. The other areas identified by GRBMP where restorative actions need to be carried out in Mission mode are "Nirmal Dhara", "Ecological Restoration", "Sustainable Agriculture", "Geological Safeguarding", "Basin Protection Against Disasters", "River Hazard Management" and "Environmental Knowledge-Building and Sensitization".

(c) and (d) In accordance to GRBMP, steps/interventions are being taken up by Namami Gange Programme under each of these aforesaid missions as pollution abatement & ecological restoration of the river are inter-linked; ecological status of river will improve when the river is pollution free.

Under Namami Gange Programme, diverse set of interventions like pollution abatement activities including sewage, industrial effluent, Solid Waste etc., River Front Management, Aviral Dhara, Rural Sanitation, Afforestation, Biodiversity Conservation,