

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 116
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021

CLEANING OF GANGA RIVER

116 Smt. SHANTA CHHETRI

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent so far during the last five years on cleaning the river Ganga;
- (b) the details of improvement, if any, in the water quality in terms of dissolved oxygen or fecal coliform; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in Ganga cleaning and the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) The Government of India releases funds to National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) for the implementation of the river Ganga rejuvenation programme. Thereafter, funds are released by NMCG for implementation of the said programme. The amount released by NMCG to State Governments/Executing Agencies during the last five financial years (i.e. FY 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21) and in current financial year till 31 October 2021 is Rs.9,933.43 crore.

(b) Under the Namami Gange Programme, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is carrying out monitoring for assessment of River Ganga water quality in 5 main stem States (Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal) through the respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). As per CPCB data for 2021 (January to May), the observed water quality of river Ganga indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Under Namami Gange Programme, a diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries has been taken up. As a result of multi sectoral interventions, as per comparison of median data of water quality parameters viz., Dissolved Oxygen (DO), and Fecal Coliform (FC) of year 2014 and 2021(January to May), Dissolved Oxygen has improved at 40 locations and FC has improved at 21 locations on river Ganga, respectively.

(c) Cleaning of river is a continuous process and Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the state government in addressing the challenges of pollution in river Ganga and its tributaries (including Yamuna) by providing financial and technical assistance under Namami Gange Programme. Under this programme, a diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga has been taken up including waste water treatment, solid waste management, river front management (ghats and crematoria development), maintaining continuous flow, rural sanitation, afforestation, biodiversity conservation and Public Participation etc.

After the launching of Namami Gange Programme in 2015, 353 such diverse set of interventions are taken up at a sanctioned cost of Rs.30,458 crore and out of this, 178 such interventions are completed and rest are at various stages of implementation. The projects are expected to be completed as per their scheduled completion time.