

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3600
ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022
NRCP IN MAHARASHTRA

3600. DR. FAUZIA KHAN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the rivers and river stretches identified for cleaning under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) the current status of progress made in each river stretches; and
- (c) the time by which all the river stretches are likely to be cleaned along with the funds allocated, released and spent so far on these stretches?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c) Rivers in the country are polluted mainly due to discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents in their respective catchments, problems in operation and maintenance of sewage/effluent treatment plants, agricultural run-off, lack of dilution and other non-point sources of pollution.

It is the responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs), local bodies and the industrial units to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluent, before discharging into recipient water bodies or land for prevention and control of pollution therein. This Ministry, through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of rivers excluding river Ganga and its tributaries which is covered under Namami Gange Program, on cost sharing basis.

Proposals for pollution abatement works, received from the States/UTs from time to time for consideration under NRCP, are sanctioned based on their prioritization, conformity with NRCP guidelines, independent appraisal, availability of Plan funds, etc.

Under NRCP, pollution abatement projects for conservation of rivers in Maharashtra namely Krishna, Panchganga, Godavari, Tapi and Mula Mutha were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.1182.86 crores. An amount of Rs.208.95 crore has been released as the central share for implementation of these projects, and inter-alia, a sewage treatment capacity of 260 million litres per day (MLD) has been created so far in the towns of Karad, Sangli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Triambakeshwar and Prakasha.

Cleaning/rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous and dynamic process, and may also depend on natural factors. In compliance of the orders of National Green Tribunal in Original Application No.673/2018 regarding polluted river stretches in the country, States/UTs are required to implement action plans for restoration of the said stretches in their jurisdiction within the stipulated timelines.
