

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1656
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2025

Alarming faecal level in Ganga at Sangam

1656. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per a recent report of the Government, faecal levels in river Ganga has reached an alarming level and Ganga water is not conforming to primary water quality for bathing with respect to faecal coliform;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, from Haridwar to Hugli, location-wise;
- (c) the reasons for such high level of faecal coliform in Ganga water; and
- (d) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised for cleaning river Ganga during 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 till 9th March, 2025, year-wise and State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c):

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in the matter of Kamlesh Singh Vs State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors. in OA No. 310/2022 with M.A No. 59/2024 in OA No. 56/2024 vide order dated 23.12.2024 directed the following:

“During the Maha Kumbh 2025 regular monitoring of the water quality of the river Ganga and Yamuna is necessary at frequent intervals to meet primary water quality criteria.”

In pursuance to above order of Hon'ble NGT, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) carried out regular water quality monitoring at seven locations (twice a week) in the stretch from Shringverpur ghat (upstream of Prayagraj) to Deehaghat (downstream of Prayagraj) including at Sangam nose (confluence point of river Ganga and Yamuna) since 12th January, 2025 covering auspicious bathing (Amrit Snan) days including pre and post days of such auspicious bathing days.

Thereafter, CPCB submitted its initial monitoring report dated 03.02.2025 before Hon'ble NGT wherein, the river water quality data collected during 12th – 26th January, 2025 including

monitoring data of 10 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) installed at Prayagraj and 07 Geosynthetic Dewatering Tubes (Geo-tube) filtration was reported.

Further, CPCB added three more water quality-monitoring locations and increased monitoring frequency to twice daily with effect from 21.02.2025 to augment availability of water quality data, thus taking the total number of water quality monitoring locations to 10.

A comprehensive report dated 28.02.2025 was submitted before Hon'ble NGT in compliance of order dated 23.12.2024.

As per the said report, median value of pH, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Biochemical Oxygen demand (BOD) and Faecal Coliform (FC) for all the monitored locations was within the respective criteria/permissible limits for bathing water.

(d):

Namami Gange Programme was launched in June 2014 for a period up to 31st March 2021 to rejuvenate River Ganga and its tributaries. The programme was subsequently extended up to 31st March, 2026.

The year-wise details of the amount allocated and released by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and amount disbursed by the NMCG to various agencies for implementation of projects/ interventions to abate pollution, rejuvenate river Ganga and its tributaries including other expenses of NMCG during financial year (FY) 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 (till 03rd March, 2025) are at **Annexure I**.

The amount disbursed by NMCG to various agencies for implementation of projects/interventions in various states under the Namami Gange Programme during FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and in 2024-25 (till 03rd March, 2025) is at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure I

Year-wise details of the amount released by the Government of India to NMCG and amount disbursed by NMCG to various implementing/ executing agencies during Financial Year 2022-23 to 03rd March, 2025

Rupees in crore

F.Y.	Budget Provisions (RE)	Funds released by Government of India to NMCG	Disbursement/Release by NMCG
2022-23	2,500.00	2,220.00	2,258.98
2023-24	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,396.10
2024-25	3,000.00	2,801.60	2,051.66*
Total	7,900.00	7,421.60	6,706.74

* up to 03rd March, 2025

Annexure II**Yearly disbursement to various agencies for implementation of projects/interventions in various states under the Namami Gange Programme during Financial Year 2022-23 to 03rd March, 2025**

Sl. No.	States	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25*
		(Rupees in crore)		
1	Uttarakhand	111.72	144.40	82.12
2	Uttar Pradesh	707.44	820.74	999.38
3	Bihar	873.39	878.96	333.98
4	Jharkhand	4.75	32.60	97.23
5	West Bengal	255.52	150.88	229.72
6	Madhya Pradesh	-	12.50	39.67
7	Delhi	77.33	161.18	-

* up to 03rd March, 2025
