



National River Conservation Plan

Background

The Central Government started the river pollution abatement programme with the launching of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP-I) in the year 1985. Subsequently, the GAP Phase II was launched in 1993 for pollution abatement of river Yamuna and Gomti, major tributaries of river Ganga. The river pollution abatement programme was further expanded to include other major rivers of the country in 1995 under the aegis of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). Finally in December 1996, GAP Phase II was also merged with the NRCP and all projects for river cleaning in the country was brought under one umbrella scheme of NRCP. The objective of NRCP is to reduce the pollution load in rivers through implementation of various pollution abatement works, thereby improving their water quality.

The projects submitted by the State Governments are taken up under NRCP depending upon the degree of pollution in the river, the designated best use of the river stretch as well as the priority of the State Government, formulation of the project as per NRCP guidelines, commitment of the State Government to bear its share of capital cost and full O&M cost of the project as well as availability of funds under the Plan.

The pollution abatement works taken up under the NRCP include:

- Interception and diversion works/ laying of sewerage systems to capture raw sewage flowing into the rivers through open drains and diverting them for treatment.
- Setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treating the diverted sewage
- Construction of Low Cost Sanitation Toilets to prevent open defecation on river banks;
- Construction of Electric Crematoria and Improved Wood Crematoria to conserve the use of wood;
- River Front Development works, such as improvement of bathing ghats;
- Public participation & awareness and capacity building, etc.

With effect from 1.8.2014, all works relating to Ganga and its tributaries have been transferred to the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is presently implementing the works for pollution abatement of rivers, other than Ganga and its tributaries.

Presently NRCP (excluding Ganga and its tributaries) has covered polluted stretches of 31 rivers in 75 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of

Rs.4517.82 crore. An amount of Rs.2066.98 crore has been released to various State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes and a treatment capacity of 2455.43 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far under NRCP (excluding Ganga and its tributaries).

The following rivers are covered under NRCP:

Sl. No.	River	Sl. No.	River	Sl. No.	River	Sl. No.	River
1	Adyar	10	Krishna	19	Panchganga	28	Tamrabarani
2	Beas	11	Mahanadi	20	Rani Chu	29	Vaigai
3	Bhadra	12	Mandovi	21	Sabarmati	30	Vennar
4	Brahmani	13	Mindhola	22	Satluj	31	Wainganga
5.	Cauvery	14	MulaMutha	23	Subarnarekha		
6	Cooum	15	Musi	24	Tapti		
7	Diphu & Dhansiri	16	Narmada	25	Tapi		
8	Ghaggar	17	Pennar	26	Tunga		
9	Godavari	18	Pamba	27	Tungabadra		