



## 58th Meeting of National Mission for Clean Ganga

[Source: PIB](#)

The **58th** Executive Committee meeting of the [National Mission for Clean Ganga \(NMCG\)](#) approved several pivotal projects aimed at [Ganga River conservation](#), addressing environmental challenges.

- **Approved Projects:** Environmental Flow Assessment was approved to assess the environmental flow of [Chambal, Son, Damodar, and Tons](#) rivers for enhancing **water quality and biodiversity**.
  - **Dolphin Rescue Initiative** was approved to develop a **Dolphin Ambulance** and raise awareness for [Ganga River dolphin conservation](#).
  - **Turtle Conservation** was approved to rehabilitate [endangered turtles](#) and reintroduce threatened species in the Ganga basin.
  - **Kolkata Septage Treatment Plant (STP) Rehabilitation** was approved for the rehabilitation of the 50 millions of litres per day (MLD) STP at Keorapukur to improve water purification.
  - **Rag-Rag Mein Ganga Series** was approved with a budget for the third season of the travelogue series to promote [Ganga's conservation and cultural heritage](#).
- **NMCG:** It was registered as a society in 2011 under the **Societies Registration Act 1860**. It is the implementation wing of [National Ganga Council](#) (set in 2016; which replaced the **National Ganga River Basin Authority (NRGBA)**).
  - The objective of the NMCG is to reduce pollution and **ensure rejuvenation of the Ganga river**.

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# THE MIGHTY GANGA BASIN

500 million people live in the Ganga basin in India

- 520 persons/km<sup>2</sup> Population density highest among all basins in the world
- 50 major cities located on main stem, each with a population >50,000 people
- 25% India's water resources accounted for by the Ganga
- >50% India's net irrigated area falls within the basin

US\$ 700 billion GDP accounted for by the basin

200 million people in the basin live below poverty line



Millions congregate on the banks of the Ganga for religious and cultural activities

Among top 10 most polluted rivers in the world

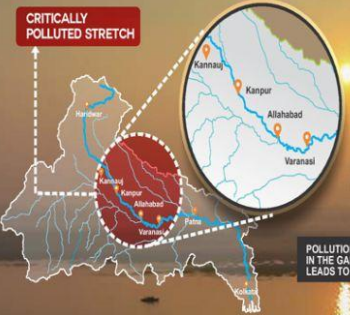
Largest Mangrove forest: Sunderbans

- The Ganga is home to 140 fish species
- 2 biosphere reserves: Nanda Devi and Sunderbans National Park
- 5 endangered species including Ganges Dolphin and Royal Bengal Tiger

# THE POLLUTED GANGA

Over 40% of India depends upon the Ganga basin for drinking water, irrigation and ecosystem services

CRITICALLY POLLUTED STRETCH



## WHAT'S POLLUTING THE GANGA?

- 2,700 million litres of wastewater is discharged into the main stem every day
- 700 million litres of treated or partially treated sewage discharged into the river every day
- 500 million litres of industrial waste drained into the Ganga every day
- 70+ grossly polluting industries along the main stem
- Effluents from tanneries are highly toxic
- Pulp and paper industry is the highest contributor by volume
- Non-point sources of pollution such as pesticides and fertilizers
- Thousands of tonnes of non-biodegradable solid waste dumped into the river daily

POLLUTION IN THE GANGA LEADS TO:

- Thousands of preventable infant deaths from water borne diseases
- Economic losses due to an unhealthy workforce
- Land degradation
- Loss of biodiversity

# REVIVING THE GANGA

Support the National Ganga River Basin Authority with US\$ 1 billion over 8 years

- Build institutions to manage the basin
- Create infrastructure to treat domestic and industrial wastewater
- Develop riverfronts and improve urban design
- Generate knowledge and basin plans
- Communication and stakeholder engagement

PROJECT AREA: 5 STATES

- Uttarakhand • Uttar Pradesh • Bihar
- Jharkhand • West Bengal

## EXPECTED BENEFITS

- Better water quality, reduced health costs
- Protected biodiversity
- Enhanced ecosystem services
- Reduced water treatment costs
- Restored economic lifeline of people living in the basin

## PROJECT STAGES



Read more: [57th Meeting of National Mission for Clean Ganga](#)

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