

State Government committed to keeping the rivers in Uttar Pradesh flowing and clean : Chief Minister
We will have to make positive efforts in saving the rivers
State Government working actively to save rivers in the state
Work is being done to save the Ganges and its tributaries
Indian Culture reveres rivers as Mother
To improve the condition of rivers, the State Government has undertaken extensive plantation drives on the banks of the rivers : Chief Minister
Our rivers are our heritage and life givers : Sadguru
Chief Minister addresses a programme 'Rally for Rivers'

Lucknow : 26 September, 2017

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ji has said that the State Government was committed to save rivers and keep them flowing and clean. Pointing out that the unscientific approach of development had seriously imperilled the rivers, the Chief Minister added that time has come where people work on mission mode to save the rivers and in turn safeguard our future.

Referring to the Sangam-the trinity of three rivers, the Chief Minister said now only Ganga and Yamuna exist there and Saraswati has vanished. In the same way, he informed the Cauvery river in the south was on the verge of disappearing. Similarly in north India, many rivers are drying up for which everyone will have to think and contribute positively, Yogi ji said.

The Chief Minister expressed these views at a function 'Rally for Rivers', organised under the aegis of Isha Foundation, here today. Talking about the river Gomti in Lucknow, the Chief Minister rued how it has been polluted by the flow of waste from 36 drains of the city. In the same way, Ganges has been badly polluted in Kanpur, the Chief Minister observed while adding that this happened because the importance we used to give rivers waned by time.

He however added that the State Government was working actively to save the rivers and that work has also been initiated on conservation of the Gomti river. Yogi ji also said that Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi ji has earmarked Rs. 20,000 crores under the 'Namami Gange' project to save rivers in the country and informed that under this lot of work was being done to conserve rivers.

He also assured that waste falling into the Ganga at different places after entering the state will also be stopped and that STP's will be constructed to treat polluted water so that it does not find way into the rivers.

The Chief Minister once again reiterated the commitment of his Government to ensure a clean and pollution free Ganga before the 'Prayag Ardh Kumbh-2019'. He said that in Indian culture rivers were revered as mother and that people had immense respect for rivers.

Pointing out the difference between the 'Namami Gange' project and the Ganga Action Plan launched in 1985-86, the Chief Minister said that in the former, the project is entirely funded by the Union Government while in the latter, the consent from state governments was required. He further added that now in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar there were like-minded governments and that under such positive circumstances, there would be no problem in cleaning up the Ganga and work will also be initiated in improving the lot of the tributaries.

Yogi ji also said that the State Government had undertaken extensive plantation on the banks of the rivers in which people, State Government and the district administrations had undertaken actively participated. He also informed that One crore saplings were planted on the banks of Ganga river. The state government he further pointed out had taken adequate care that plants like Peepal, Pakad, Mango and Neem were planted along with medicinal plants. The State Government, he added, was also encouraging people for plantation.

He also welcomed the 'Rally for Rivers' initiative of Isha Foundation and expressed hope that it will achieve its goals. He also extended his good wishes for the campaign. Addressing the gathering, founder of the Isha Foundation, Sadguru said that at all costs the earth has to be protected at all costs as the environmental imbalance was creating a havoc.

Referring to the rivers as a heritage and life lines, the spiritual guru called for a national policy for conservation of rivers and exhorted the people to be part of the save river campaign. He also expressed happiness that political parties in the country were unanimous towards protection of rivers.

Bene this, Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Dinesh Sharma, while speaking at the event said that other than diversion of drains from flowing into the Gomti, the State Government was also working to construct STP's so that the Gomti river water quality improves. He also said that to maintain the Gomti river system, a large number of trees were being planted on its banks.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Keshav Prasad Maurya, dignitaries and a large number of students. It may be pointed out here that 'Rally for Rivers' started on September 03 from Coimbatore and reached Lucknow today via Bhopal. The rally would now proceed on its onward journey to Jaipur and would conclude in New Delhi on October 02, 2017.

Eng. PN-CM-Rally for Rivers-26 Septmeber, 2017