

QUESTIONNOIRE FOR A STUDY OF RIVERS

Rivers are the common property and heritage of the people present and future. The future generation has a right to know, how the present generation has treated the rivers. The collection of the following items of information may be helpful for this. Gathering of information has to be done in two stages (1) The present condition of the river to be observed and noted in respect of all the items in the questionnaire. (2) The past condition (30-50 years back) in respect of all the items to be gathered from persons of the previous generation who love the rivers. The information is to be collected in an informal way, in a separate note book and later on a report to be prepared.

I. General Particulars:

1. Which Bank of the River has been selected for collecting information? (While standing and looking at the direction of the river flow, the right side of the person is the right bak.)
2. Boundaries of the study area (From such and such a bridge/tributary/canal or bathing ghat to.....)
3. Approximate length of the river bank studied (K.M) and the width covered from the bank (200/300 meter).
4. Name of the Village/Panchayat (Local body) in which the study area comes.
5. Historical incidents and myths relating to the study areas.
6. References to the study area in relation to the river, in the development plan the Panchayat or Newspapers or books.
7. Names and addresses of individuals or organisations who have helped in collecting the information.

Details regarding River Banks:

8. Nature of the river Bank - Area with disorderly grown shrubs, plants or paddy field, protected by stone wall (either private or government), if so distance covered by stonewall etc.
9. Whether there is/was a public road along the bank; if so width and length; whether land leased by Government.
10. Whether the bank is destroyed or newly formed, at the time of forceful flow.
11. Where are the bathing ghats and Jetties for country boats found? How many are they?
12. The Industrial units on the river banks and those connected with the river- their number, how much of water each unit takes from the river? How much each unit discharges into the river?
13. If brick making units are located their details how many units, No. of bricks produced, quantity (volume) of soil removed during an year, changes in land, water table of neighbouring areas etc.
14. Besides industries, number of hotels, public toilets, drainage canals, slaughter houses etc, which pollute the river, quantity of pollutants and their nature.
15. Temples, sacred groves, churches, other public institutions, on the river banks, areas where festivals/ conventions are held and their historical and traditional connections with the river.
16. Names of tributaries and canals which branch out from the river.
17. Names of tributaries and canals which join the river.
18. Name of lakes, wetlands and other waterlogged areas which are related to the river.

19. No. of wells on the river banks, their depth, availability of water during summer, quality of water, mode of construction of wells, nature of soil of the well (rocky, laterite, sandy, muddy etc.); whether there is drinking water shortage and if so during which months.
20. Paddy fields lying adjacent to the water - name and extent.
21. Names of trees, bushes, creepers, medicinal herbs, wild fruit plants, bamboo etc. and the animals and birds which are related to these vegetation.
22. Nature of cultivation along the banks. (land use details)

Water and River bed.

23. Name of the particular stretch of the river under study, breadth of the river, bridges, dams, sand stretches if any, ferry points etc. (their names). The maximum and minimum of water depth (in the study area) whether tides are experienced, salinity is felt, etc.
24. Quality of water - clear/turbid, colour (No colour, black etc) extent and nature of pollution.
25. Taste and nature of water - No taste, saline, foul smell, distaste viscus.
26. Who or which agencies are using the river water, for drinking purpose,/public distribution/cultivation/industries.
27. To what extent the river is used for navigation purpose.
28. Details of vegetation found on the river bed, water surface, river banks etc.
29. Different species of fish - availability of each species, (either estimated numbers or as percentage of total) limeshell, crabs, frogs, reptiles, tortoises, different species of birds etc.
30. Methods adopted for fishing and the instruments used for each method.
31. Estimated number who use the water for cleaning clothes, and number of washermen engaged.
32. Advantages and disadvantages of floods, experienced.
33. Nature of river bed - Rocky, large rocky stones, sand clay soil, etc.
34. Sand/gravel/clay/- availability of these and their minig.
35. Trekking paths along the sandy portion of the river during summer months number, distsance, places connected etc.
36. Festivals, Trade fairs etc. held on the sandy portion.

37. Traditions followed to protect rivers, NGOs engaged in river protections and individuals interested.
38. Any other relevant information.
39. Names and addresses of persons who collected the information.
40. A map of the portion of the river surveyed with direction of flow marked with an arrow mark and with different colours for the channel river banks, areas under cultivation on the banks etc.