Water resources minister Nitin Gadkari’s hope to run hybrid aeroboats from Delhi to Agra may not be a reality in near future because of the poor quality of Yamuna water. The minister on Thursday said that a assessment carried out on this stretch of Yamuna showed that the water quality is so bad that starting such a service would be difficult.

“I was told that there is hardly any water in this stretch of the river. It’s all sewage and waste water. We have launched several water cleaning projects under the Namami Gange scheme, which will help improve the water quality and flow in the river,” the minister said while flagging off the first vessel carrying containers of Concor, a PSU under railways ministry.

Recently, Gadkari had said his ministry was looking at the possibility of using these boats during Kumbh Mela next year and on Yamuna for a visit to Taj Mahal from Delhi. He had also said the trial run could be undertaken before January Arvind Kejriwal, his deputy and all Delhi MPs boarding the boat.

Hybrid aeroboats which combine land, water and aviation technology, can run on land, water and air at speeds greater that 80kmph.