

Pollution Control in Maharashtra

56. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn any plan to help the Maharashtra Government to control the industrial and environmental pollution in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for this purpose, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). No specific plan has been drawn to help the Maharashtra Government to control the industrial and environmental pollution in the State. However, the Government has taken various steps to control industrial and environmental pollution in the country, including the State of Maharashtra. These include the following :

1. Effluent and emission standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
2. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
3. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
4. 17 categories of highly polluting industries have been identified for priority action which include the industries from the State of Maharashtra also.
5. Chembur and Tarapur in Maharashtra have been identified as two of the 24 critically polluted areas in the country for abatement of pollution.
6. Under the World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Control Project, assistance is provided for civil construction of Central and Regional Laboratories of the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, and for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in the cluster of small scale industries.
7. The water cess collected from specified industries and local bodies under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, is reimbursed to the respective State Pollution Control Boards, including the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, which is utilised by the State Boards for assisting industrial units in adoption of clean technologies and sewage treatment systems as also for other purposes as per the decision of the respective State Boards.
8. Under the scheme for assistance for abatement of pollution, funds are given to the State Boards and States' Environment Departments, including the State of Maharashtra, for specific studies in pollution control and prevention, and for purchase of laboratory equipments, on their request.
9. In order to prevent industrial pollution in future and to facilitate sustainable development, the Government has made it compulsory for major specific projects to have environmental clearance based on impact assessment and associated studies.
10. In order to prevent hazards from toxic chemicals, the Government is implementing the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 and the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 that have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
11. Environmental Audit in the form of Environmental Statement has been made mandatory to all the polluting units. Implementation of this scheme is expected to promote not only smooth monitoring of industrial activities but also in adoption of low-cost technologies and minimisation of resource consumption.
12. In order to promote pollution prevention and waste minimisation among the small scale sector, the Ministry has launched a campaign to establish waste minimisation circles in clusters of small scale industries of the same category under the World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Prevention Project in different parts of the country including Maharashtra.
13. Since April 1995 unleaded petrol is made available in Mumbai and vehicles registered in Mumbai after 1st April, 1995 are required to instal catalytic converters.
14. More stringent norms for vehicular emission have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and have come into effect from April, 1996.
15. It is necessary for vehicles to obtain "Pollution under Control" certificate from Transport Department Authorized garages. There are 222 authorised garages in Maharashtra State.
16. Gross and mass emission standards for vehicles have been prescribed under the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 and are being implemented through Transport Authority in the State.

(c) No direct financial assistance for pollution control to the State of Maharashtra is provided by the Central Government. However, financial assistance for civil construction of central and regional laboratories of the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, and subsidy as Central Government share for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants and for conducting specific studies in the area of pollution control and prevention is provided to the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board on their request. The scheme-wise details of such financial assistance is given below :

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Year
1.	Reimbursement of water cess...	520.00	1995-96
2.	Assistance for abatement of pollution	1.00	1995-96
3.	Adoption of clean technologies in Small Scale Industries	3.00	1995-96
4.	World Bank assisted industrial pollution control project.		
	(a) Setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP)	143.925	1990-96
	(b) Civil Construction of Central & Regional Laboratories of the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board	60.175	1992-93

[Translation]

Telephones in Rajasthan

57 SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce

U.H.F. and Optical Fibre System in certain districts of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation made for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which these systems are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) All the 31 District Headquarters of Rajasthan are already connected on reliable media viz Optical Fibre Micro Wave and Digital Coaxial Systems. In addition, for Long-distance connectivity to these District Head-quarters, several Optical Fibre Cables Schemes are targeted for commissioning during 1996-97.

(b) (i) Long Distance optical Fibre Cable schemes targeted for commissioning during 1996-97 are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(ii) GHZ Microwave systems targeted for commissioning during 1996-97 are at statement-II enclosed.

(c) Funds for these schemes have already been asked for in the capital work programme during 1996-97

(d) 1996-97 as referred to in (b) above

STATEMENT-I

- A OFC Schemes targeted for commissioning during 1996-97 are
1. Sikar-Jhunjhunu-Hanumangarh-Sriganganagar 140Mb/s OFC.
 2. Jaipur-Kota-Indore 140Mb/s OFC
 3. New Delhi-Alwar-Bharatpur-Jaipur 140Mb/s OFC.
 4. Madanganj-Makrana-Kuchamancity 34Mb/s OFC

STATEMENT-II

The following 2 GHZ M/W Schemes are targeted for commissioning during 1996-97

Ajmer	1	Kekri-Sarwar	2G-30
Pali	1	Pali-Sojatcity	2G-120
	2	Sojatcity-Sojat Road	2G-30
Banswara	1	Rakho-Bagidora	2G-30
	2	Sagware-M/K Exchange	2G-120
	3	Kushalgarh M/W-Exch	2G-30
Barmer	1	Barmer Mongta	2G-120
	2	Mangta-Bhorimana	2G-30
	3	Manta-Chontan	2G-30