

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:120
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
STUDY ON POLLUTION IN YAMUNA
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been conducted about the increasing level of pollution in Yamuna river;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the said study and the recommendations made therein; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto and the effective steps being taken by the Government to check the increasing level of pollution in the river Yamuna?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (c) Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in Parts(a) to (c) of reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 120 to be answered on 22.7. 2002 on "Study on Pollution in Yamuna

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB) has been monitoring the water quality of River Yamuna since December,1974. The monitoring is carried out once a month at 17 locations from Yamnotri to Allahabad. In addition, under Supreme Court directions, the CPCB is also monitoring river Yamuna at 4 locations in Delhi stretch along with drains outfalling into the river.

The studies indicate that out of the riverine length of 1376 kilometre, 526 kilometre stretch between Delhi and Etawah is highly polluted due to discharge of untreated domestic and industrial waste water . The status of water quality in different stretches of the river is as under:-

Sl.No.	River Stretch	Dissolved Oxygen Range (mg/l)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand Range (mg/l)	Fecal Coliform range (MPN/100ml)	Reason For critical parameter
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1.	Tajewala-Wazirabad	7.3-11.0	1.0-4.5	4x10 ² -7.5x10 ³	Discharge of domestic wastewater
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2.	Wazirabad-Okhla	0-0.8	0-28.0	2.5x10 ⁵ -2.7x10 ⁶	Discharge of domestic and industrial effluent at Delhi
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3.	Okhla-Mathura	0.0-9.2	2.8-26.5	1.4x10 ⁴ -7.9x10 ⁴	Domestic waste water from Delhi and industrial discharge from Saharanpur Ghaziabad, NOIDA and Mathura
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4.	Mathura-Allahabad	0.9-11.8	3.0-26.0	1.4x10 ³ -11.7x10 ⁵	Domestic waste water from Vrindavan, Agra & Etawah.
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The existing water quality of river varies from C to E class as per CPCB's classification based on designated best use. The objective of the implementation of the Yamuna Action Plan is to improve the existing water quality of the river to the bathing quality(Class B).

(c) The Government is aware of the increasing level of pollution in river Yamuna due to discharge of treated and untreated domestic and industrial waste water and the problem of maintenance of minimum flow in the river. The steps taken by the Government to check the increasing level of pollution in the river are as under:-

(i) Directions under Section 18 (1)(b) of the Water Act, 1974 have been issued by the CPCB to the concerned State Boards along the river Yamuna for taking steps to properly operate and maintain the sewage treatment plants, provide facilities for collection and treatment of sewage, to comply with the effluent standards stringently for industries located along river Yamuna and to maintain basic minimum flow for protection of the aquatic life besides other directions.

(ii) Under Yamuna Action Plan phase-I, pollution abatement schemes have been undertaken in 8 towns of Uttar Pradesh and 12 towns of Haryana besides Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs. 711 crore against which Rs. 655 crore have been spent so far and the physical progress is 95 per cent.

(iii) The Delhi Government has taken the following measures:-

- (a) Improvement of the capacity utilization of sewage treatment plants by desilting and rehabilitation of trunk sewer.
- (b) Upgrading the existing capacity of sewage treatment plants by improving the various parameters of pollution.
- (c) The performance of sewage treatment plants is monitored on quarterly basis.
- (d) The effluent standards for sewage treatment plants has been made more stringent with respect to Biochemical Oxygen Demand (10 milligrams per litre as against 30 milligrams per litre) and Total Suspended Solids (15 milligrams per litre as against 50 milligrams per litre)
- (e) Organising training courses by Delhi Productivity Council for the staff engaged for operation and maintenance of sewage treatment plants.

(iv) A High Powered Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Member(Environment), Planning Commission with Chief Secretaries of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh as members, to discuss various issues for maintaining the minimum flow in river Yamuna.

(v) A Water Quality Assessment Authority and State Level Review Committees have been constituted to ensure the maintenance of water quality of surface and ground waters.