

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3398  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000  
POLLUTION IN YAMUNA RIVER  
SURESH CHANDEL;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA;ZORA SINGH MANN

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Yamuna is still highly polluted despite expenditure of crores of rupees made under the Yamuna Action Plan for cleaning the river;
- (b) if so, the amount spent thereon so far and the results achieved thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has admitted that water of Yamuna River at several places is highly polluted and its quality is not in conformity with the prescribed norms; and
- (d) if so, the steps being contemplated by the board to make the Yamuna water pollution free?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Yamuna is a polluted river along Delhi and downstream. A scheme of pollution abatement of Yamuna which is known as the Yamuna Action Plan was approved by the Government in April 1993. The present approved cost of the Action Plan is Rs.509.54 crore. Under this Plan, works have been taken up in 21 towns out of which 8 towns are in Uttar Pradesh and 12 towns in Haryana besides Delhi. The Delhi component of Yamuna Action Plan is small comprising 2 sewage treatment plants each of 10 million liters per day capacity and one electric crematorium. So far, an expenditure of Rs.431.87 crore has been incurred on this Plan. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is implementing the major part of pollution abatement programme of Yamuna out of their own plan funds. Under this programme, 14 additional sewage treatment plants along with allied works are to be constructed. Out of these, 7 treatment plants have already been completed and another 6 will be completed by March 2001 and tenders for the remaining one sewage treatment plant have been invited. An amount of Rs.496 crore has been spent on this programme so far. In addition, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is also to construct 15 common effluent treatment plants to treat industrial effluents from 21 industrial estates of Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs.90 crore. This Project is under implementation. Despite this expenditure, the water quality of Yamuna river along Delhi and downstream is much below the desired standards. The Central Pollution Control Board have confirmed this fact in their monitoring reports which are filed regularly in the Supreme Court under a Public Interest Litigation.

(d) Following additional steps have been taken by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to minimize the pollution of river Yamuna :

(i) Water polluting industries have been directed vide public notice in the newspapers to stop discharging untreated industrial effluents directly or indirectly into river Yamuna with effect from 1-11-99.

(ii) A total of 3177 water polluting industries have been closed as on date.

(iii) A total of 1121 units have installed effluent treatment plants.

(iv) 550 water polluting units in non-conforming areas have been allotted industrial plots in Narela Industrial complex.

(v) 8 Project Directors have been appointed for 8 major drains to supervise the works of identification of water polluting units and also cleaning operation of the drains.

(vi) 7 sewage treatment plants have been put into use out of 14 new sewage treatment plants. Of the remaining 7 treatment plants, 6 will be completed by March, 2001 and tenders for the remaining one sewage treatment plant have been invited. In addition, two sewage treatment plants each of 10 million litres per day capacity have already been completed under the Yamuna Action Plan of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(vii) The quantity of sewage undergoing treatment has been increased from about 1000 million litres per day to 1400 million litres per day. By December 2000, about 1730 million litres per day of sewage would be treated and by March 2001, this would increase to 1840 million litres per day.

(viii) 3 combined effluent treatment plants at Wazirpur, Mangolpuri and Mayapuri are being constructed expeditiously which are likely to be completed by May, 2001. For the remaining 12 combined effluent treatment plants, tenders have been invited and contracts are likely to be awarded by December, 2000.

(ix) Due to the joint efforts by Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Jal Board and Irrigation and Flood Department, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have provided 258 mild steel gratings to remove & collect suspended solids.

(x) 75 baffle walls have been erected to ensure removal of suspended solids. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Irrigation and Flood Department have erected 19.5 kilometers of wire mesh barricades on the drains, bridges and on the bank of nallas where jhuggi clusters are existing.

(xi) Out of 1173 nallas, Municipal Corporation of Delhi have completed desilting of 1138 Nallas and work is in progress in 21 Nallas.