

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2161

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010

DISCHARGING OF WASTE AFTER CONSTITUTION OF NGRB AUTHORITY

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether untreated sewage waste from industrial units continue to flow in to Ganga river even after constitution of the National Ganga River Basin Authority;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken by the National Ganga River Basin Authority against such industrial units;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Authority to keep Ganga pollution free?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) monitor the compliance of discharge standards for effluents notified for industries by the Ministry. As per information provided by CPCB, 591 grossly polluting industries, discharging BOD load of 100 kg per day or more have been identified in the Ganga Basin. Out of these, 398 units are complying with the prescribed discharge standards and 121 units are closed. 72 units are defaulting and are facing legal action. It has been decided, under the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA), to address the issue of pollution of river Ganga in a comprehensive manner. In the first meeting of the NGRBA held on 5th October, 2009 it was decided to ensure that by the year 2020, no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into Ganga. Investments required to create the necessary treatment and sewerage infrastructure over next 10 years would be suitably shared between Centre and the States. CPCB has been requested to make a comprehensive assessment of the situation in the areas of concentration of industries discharging effluents into the river Ganga and suggest remedial measures. CPCB, based on its environment surveillance, has issued directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act 1986 for closure to 16 industries in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Further, it has issued directions under Section 18(1) (b) of Water (Pollution and Control) Act, 1974 to the SPCBs of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Jharkhand for taking appropriate action against 21 defaulting industries.