

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4732

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Ajnala Dr. Rattan Singh;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether sewage treatment plants in various States are not functioning properly and causing river pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments including Punjab for upgradation of existing sewage treatment plants and setting up of new sewage treatment plants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the action taken including funds provided by the Government in this regard, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e) According to a recent report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), against an estimated sewage generation of about 38254 million litres per day (mld) from the Class I cities & Class II towns of the country, the available treatment capacity is for 11787 mld. As per this report, nearly 39 per cent sewage treatment plants do not conform to the effluent discharge standards prescribed under the Environmental (Protection) Rules for discharge into streams. The major reasons for non-compliance of standards include; poor operation & maintenance of plants due to inadequate resource mobilization by the States/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), lack of technical manpower and non-availability of regular power supply.

The pollution load on rivers has increased over the years due to rapid urbanisation and industrialization. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in river conservation through the centrally sponsored National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The Plan presently covers 38 rivers in 178 towns spread over 20 states. The works undertaken include interception and diversion of sewage and its treatment through setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). Sewage treatment capacity of 4064 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far. Proposals for STPs are considered for sanction based on proposals received from different states subject to their conformity to NRCP guidelines and availability of funds. A statement indicating the state-wise details of funds released for various pollution abatement works, treatment capacity created, proposals received for STPs and related sewerage works during the last two years from the States including Punjab is at Annexure.

The State Governments/ULBs are responsible for operation & maintenance of the assets including the STPs. They are requested to ensure proper operation and maintenance of assets and capacity building of staff. Commitment in this regard is included in the tripartite Memorandum of Agreements (MoA) that are being signed between Centre, State Governments and ULBs for implementation of the projects.

Creation of infrastructure for sewage management and disposal is also being undertaken through other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under state schemes.