

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4268
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
CLEANING OF WATER BODIES
Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering any schemes to clean over-ground and underground water bodies polluted due to the discharge of industrial effluents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is also considering a baseline survey to identify villages where all sources of potable water are polluted; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) As informed by the Central Pollution Control Board and Central Ground Water Board, there is no scheme for cleaning of over-ground water or underground bodies due to discharge of industrial effluents. However, the discharge of industrial effluents is regulated as per Section 25 & 26 of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. As per these provisions, concerned industry or establishment has to meet the prescribed standards stipulated by respective State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees.

(c) & (d) As informed by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS), the Rural drinking water is a State subject. The Ministry supports the State Governments technically and financially through the Centrally Sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for provision of safe water supply to rural areas. As part of NRDWP, State Governments have been advised to conduct regular testing of all drinking water sources in the rural areas and report the status through the on-line Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) developed by the Ministry. As reported by the State Governments in the on-line IMIS, as on 1.4.2011, there are about 1.21 lakh rural habitations which have excess chemical contamination in some of their drinking water sources. The State-wise information on water quality affected habitations is annexed.