

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:51
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
DISEASES CAUSED BY WATER POLLUTION
Gorakhnath Shri ;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao

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

(a) whether the pollution level of water in the major rivers of the country is very high resulting in rise in water borne diseases and deaths therefrom; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to save the rivers from pollution along with the funds spent thereon during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) of LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 51 FOR 13.08.2012 REGARDING DISEASES CAUSED BY WATER POLLUTION RAISED BY SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY AND SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE.

(a) & (b) According to the Central Pollution Control Board, the downstream of rivers of the cities and towns located at the banks of the rivers are showing water quality deterioration with reference to Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and coliform bacteria. The prime cause of such deterioration is on account of disposal of sewage. Health effects could be associated with water pollution. However, there is no conclusive data available to confirm these figures.

Ministry of Environment and Forests is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in rivers through the centrally sponsored National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), which presently covers 40 rivers in 190 towns spread over 20 States. Pollution abatement schemes implemented under the plan include interception, diversion and treatment of sewage; low cost sanitation works on river banks; electric/ improved wood based crematoria etc. Sewage treatment capacity of 4664 mld (million litres per day) has been created under this scheme. The details of funds released by the Ministry under NRCP during last three years, State-wise and river wise is at annexure.