

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:534

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012

MAJOR POLLUTERS OF VARIOUS RIVERS

Adityanath Shri Yogi;Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

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

- (a) whether industrialization in large towns are the major cause of pollution in various rivers and lakes including Ganga and Yamuna;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify such towns in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of such survey;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to conserve the said rivers/lakes;
- (e) the details of projects sanctioned for the abatement of pollution during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (f) the funds released and utilized during the said period under each of such projects and the impact thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Discharge of untreated and partially treated industrial and municipal wastewater from towns constitute major source of pollution in rivers and lakes.

CPCB is monitoring water quality of various river stretches in the country including, inter-alia, River Ganga and Yamuna. Based on the monitoring, 150 polluted stretches have been identified along various rivers in the country. The Govt. of India through a study has identified 62 lakes across the country for conservation.

(d) Conservation of rivers and lakes is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments and this Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in rivers and lakes under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) respectively for implementation of projects on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. The NRCP presently covers 41 rivers in 191 towns spread over 20 States. Various pollution abatement schemes taken up under the Plan, inter-alia, include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/ improved wood crematoria and river front development. Pollution abatement schemes of Rs.8847.22 crore have been sanctioned under the Plan including schemes under National Ganga River Basin Authority. So far, sewage treatment capacity of 4704 mld has been created under the Plan.

Under the NLCP the Ministry has sanctioned projects for conservation of 61 lakes in 14 States with a total cost of Rs.1031.18 crore. Works taken up under the Plan include; core components of interception, diversion and treatment of wastewaters before their entry into the lake, catchment area treatment, shoreline protection, in-lake treatment such as aeration, de-weeding, de-siltation, bio-remediation etc.

Further, the CPCB and respective State Pollution Control Boards monitor industries for compliance with respect to effluents discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(e) & (f) Details of cost of projects sanctioned, funds released under NRCP and NLCP during the last 3 years and the current year, State-wise, are at Annexure-I & II.