

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2603
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
DISEASES CAUSED BY GODAVARI RIVER
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ground water of Nasik is being polluted due to the pollution in Godavari river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the danger of outbreak of diseases due to it;
- (c) the details of the amount spent on the cleaning of Godavari river; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in coordination with Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board (MPCB) is monitoring ground water quality at Pathardi Nashik. The ground water quality results indicate that the values of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) are exceeding water quality criteria and this has been attributed due to disposal of Municipal Solid Waste.

A special study on Groundwater Quality Assessment in Metropolitan cities of India taken up CPCB revealed that total Hardness, Calcium and Nitrate concentration in groundwater samples of Nashik city exceeded the maximum permissible limit prescribed for drinking water. Though no fecal contamination was observed in ground water, but at some locations bacterial contamination was noted. Further, no report of danger of outbreak of diseases due to water contamination is reported by CPCB.

(c) & (d) Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for implementation of projects on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. Pollution abatement schemes of Rs.118.97 crore have been sanctioned for river Godavari in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. So far, an expenditure of Rs. 112.82 crore has been incurred and sewage treatment capacity of 185.46 mld has been created under the Plan.