

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2728

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

RIVER POLLUTION BY INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGE

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

- (a) whether certain rivers in the country are being polluted due to nearby industries and discharge of sewage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)/State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) has taken any steps to control the inflow of industrial pollutants into rivers;
- (d) if so, the details of schemes and regulatory framework to set up the effluent treatment plants to control river pollution; and
- (e) the amount spent on cleaning during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The pollution load in rivers is increasing due to discharge of partially treated and untreated municipal and industrial waste. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), is monitoring water quality of rivers in terms of Dissolved Oxygen, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Fecal Coliforms etc. Based on BOD levels, 150 polluted stretches have been identified along various rivers in the country, the details of which including Andhra Pradesh are enclosed at Annexure.

(c) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board and the 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. The Ministry has taken several steps to control the pollution including financial assistance provided to the small scale industries located in clusters, industrial areas/estates for installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants.

This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for abatement of pollution in rivers through the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), covering works such as interception & diversion of sewage, construction of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation schemes, installation of common effluent treatment plants etc. During last three years and the current year, an amount of Rs.1387.68 crore was released to different States under the Plan.