

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3802
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012
WATER POLLUTION
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water quality in the National Capital Territory is worst according to the World Development Report by an international agency as well as Central Pollution Control Boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring water quality of aquatic sources at 2500 stations located in 28 States and 6 Union Territories including National Capital Territory of Delhi. There are 4 stations on river Yamuna starting from Palla (upstream at Delhi-Haryana Border) to downstream Okhla in Delhi. The observed water quality data (for last 10 years) indicate that Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) exceeded at 3 stations namely Nizamuddin Bridge, Agra Canal and Okhla downstream. However, BOD is within the prescribed limits at Palla. The water quality of river Yamuna is deteriorated after confluence of Nazafgarh Drain (downstream Wazirabad Barrage), which discharges about 2064 Million Litres/Day (MLD) of partially treated waste water into river Yamuna. Further, the total generation of sewage in Delhi is 3800 MLD, of which only 63% of the installed capacity of 2460 MLD is being treated due to inadequate collection system.

The steps taken to check pollution in river Yamuna include:

Industries and sewage treatment plants are required to take consent under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and ensure compliance of prescribed standards before discharging treated water into drain/river Yamuna.

Exploring the possibility of reuse/recycling of the treated effluent having BOD around 30 mg/l and utilize treated waste water in industries as a promotional measure.

Ensure compliance of prescribed standards by common effluent treatment plants before discharging treated water into drain leading to river Yamuna.

Exploring the possibility of bioremediation of treated waste water to improve its quality.

An action plan to further augment the existing treatment capacity to a level of BOD less than 10 mg/l.