

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3304  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013  
POLLUTION BY POWER PLANTS  
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the pollution caused by thermal power plant of Sonbhadra of U.P. due to which the water of the rivers of that area has become contaminated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) There are six Thermal Power Plants in District Sonbhadra of Uttar Pradesh, which are

- (i) Shaktinagar Thermal Power Plant of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC),
- (ii) Rihand Thermal Power Plant, NTPC,
- (iii) Anpara A & B Thermal Power Plant, Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL),
- (iv) Obra Thermal Power Plant, UPRVUNL
- (v) Anpara C Thermal Power Plant of M/s Lanco Power and
- (vi) Renuagar Power Plant of M/s Hindalco Industries.

Out of these six Thermal Power Plants, only Obra Thermal Power Plant of UPRVUNL is discharging effluent in to river Renuka while other five plants discharge their effluent (cooling water and ash pond effluent) in to Rihand reservoir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Obra Thermal Power Plant of UPRVUNL to provide Ash Pond Water Recycling System (AWRS) for improving the effluent quality.

Further, the CPCB is monitoring water quality of Rihand river at two locations in Sonbhadra District. All parameters such as pH, Temperature, Conductivity, Nitrate+Nitrite Nitrogen, Fecal Coliform and total Coliforms are meeting the desired water quality criteria at both the locations except two parameters i.e. Dissolved Oxygen and Biochemical Oxygen Demand.

(c) These Thermal Power Plants are located in District Sonbhadra, U.P. which comes under Singrauli area. The Singrauli area has been identified as one of the Critically Polluted Area (CPA) based on Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI). As per the Action Plan prepared for improvement of the environmental quality for bringing down the CEPI score of Singrauli area, these plants have been asked to provide AWRS in a time bound manner.