

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2691
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013
WATER PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION CESS ACT
Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether the Government has been monitoring and auditing the cess collected under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- (b) if so, the details thereof:
- (c) whether the Government proposes to utilise the funds collected as cess for establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in industrial clusters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) Yes, sir. Upto 80 percent of the water cess amount collected by the Pollution Control Boards in the States (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories (PCCs) is disbursed to the SPCBs/PCCs in accordance with Section 8 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, and other provisions made by the Ministry of Environment & Forests for utilization of water cess proceeds disbursed to the SPCBs/PCCs. Of the cess amount collected, upto twenty percent remain with the Central Government for undertaking specific projects in any part of the country through the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) subject to approval by the Central Government. The details of water cess collected by SPCBs / PCCs, the amount disbursed to SPCBs/ PCCs and the amount released to CPCB for the last six years are given below:-

S.No.	Financial	Net collections	Reimbursement	Released	Total
Year	of SPCBs/	PCCs	to SPCBs/PCCs	to CPCB	Release
	(Rs.in	(Rs.in	(Rs.in	(Rs. in	
	crores)	crores)	crores)	crores)	

1.	2007-08	190.84	130.33	-	130.33
2.	2008-09	228.99	79.79	-	79.79
3.	2009-10	205.57	200.11	9.84	209.95
4.	2010-11	235.94	239.23	4.50	243.73
5.	2011-12	220.18	159.82	33.26	193.08

6. 2012-13 226.19 132.51 26.26 158.77

(b) Presently the State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs) are allowed to utilize 50% of the total amount of water cess disbursed to them on their establishment and office operations. 25% of the total amount of water cess disbursed is earmarked for (i) establishment costs related to scientific and technical manpower, including augmentation thereof; and (ii) e-governance and IT applications in the SPCBs / PCCs including online consent management. 25% of the cess funds available for project activities are earmarked for monitoring of air, water and noise and creation of related infrastructure. A minimum of 3% of the total cess funds are utilized for the purpose of e-governance and IT applications.

The CPCB has undertaken various projects for environmental protection out of the water cess proceeds released to them.

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise