

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2034

ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014

SEWAGE TREATMENT

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

- (a) whether more than eighty percent of sewage in India is untreated and flows directly into the nation's major rivers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the total volume of sewage generated and the volume of which is treated along with the details of existing treatment capacity of treatment plants, State-wise;
- (d) whether the in-situ treatment of sewage in drains and waterbodies as planned by Central Pollution Control Board has been fully implemented and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government propose to treat the sewage near its sources setting up small plants instead of building long sewage lines and if so, the details thereof including other effective steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for proper sewage treatment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c) According to the report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in December 2009, against an estimated sewage generation of about 38,254 million litres per day (mld) from Class-I cities and Class-II towns of the country, the treatment capacity is available only for 11,787 mld i.e. around 30% of the sewage generation. The State-wise details of sewage generation and sewage treatment capacity in Class I cities & Class II towns are at Annexure I & II respectively.

(d) Taken into account the gap between sewage generation and existing treatment facilities in the country, CPCB has taken up demonstration of in-situ sewage treatment technology through bioremediation in open drains at various locations as an intermediate measure for abatement of water pollution till sewage treatment plants are installed.

Demonstration/pilot studies for in-situ treatment of sewage through bioremediation have been carried out by CPCB at Mayur Vihar drain (Delhi), Ramnagar Domora drain, Bharatpur (Rajasthan) and AB-Road drain, Indore (Madhya Pradesh). Reduction in pollution load ranging from 50-80% in terms of main parameters, including BOD (Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand), was observed during these pilot studies. Similar demonstration projects relating to in-situ treatment of sewage are also being carried out by CPCB at Budha Nala, Ludhiana (Punjab) and Bakarganj Nala, Patna (Bihar).

(e) The location of sewage treatment plants (STPs), including decentralized STPs, is dependent on various local site conditions, including availability of land for the STP, terrain and topography of the area, configuration of the existing sewerage system, etc.

It is the responsibility of the State Governments/concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers, thereby polluting them. This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NGRBA (National Ganga River Basin Authority) programmes, for implementation of projects on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. NRCP & NGRBA programmes presently cover polluted stretches of 42 rivers in 199 towns spread over 21 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs.10716.45 crore. Sewage treatment capacity of 4957.98 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far under the two programmes.

In addition, State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocations, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including setting up of sewage treatment plants, in various towns under other Central sector schemes like JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) and UIDSSMT (Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns) of Ministry of Urban Development.