

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2541  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017  
Discharge of Untreated Sewage into Rivers  
Siddeshwara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the untreated sewage flowing into the rivers every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken or is considering to take any concrete steps to address the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the status of sewage water treatment facilities in the NCT of Delhi; and
- (e) whether the Government has any data on the untreated sewage which flows into the river Yamuna every day?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) & (b) As per a report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in March, 2015, the sewage generation from urban areas in the country is estimated at 61,948 million litres per day (mld), against which a sewage treatment capacity of 23,277 mld is available. The State-wise details are given at Annexure-I. The remaining untreated sewage either flows into rivers and other water bodies or percolates into the ground.

(c) to (e) It is the responsibility of the State Governments/ concerned local bodies to set up facilities for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage for abatement of pollution of rivers. This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), which has covered polluted stretches of 31 rivers in 75 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 4517.82 crore. So far, Central share of Rs. 2066.98 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes and sewage treatment capacity of 2446.24 mld (million litres per day) has been created under the NRCP. The details of rivers covered so far under NRCP, State-wise are at Annexure-II.

State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocation, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including sewage treatment plants, in various cities/towns under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) & Smart Cities Mission programmes of Ministry of Urban Development and the 'Namami Gange' programme of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

To ensure proper treatment of municipal wastewater before discharge into the rivers, CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees in the country, for setting up of sewage treatment plants in their respective States. CPCB also issued directions in October, 2015 to 69 municipal authorities of metropolitan cities and State capitals, under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to ensure proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated for abatement of pollution of rivers.

As per information provided by Delhi Jal Board, the installed sewage treatment capacity in Delhi is 2742 mld, while the total sewage being collected and treated is around 2065 mld. As per the estimates of Delhi Jal Board, around 1203 mld of untreated sewage is being discharged either into river Yamuna and other water bodies in Delhi or percolates into the ground.

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