

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1255

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016

Industries Polluting Rivers

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**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of guidelines and norms fixed for discharge of chemical and other pollutants by the industries/factories located on the banks of major rivers including Ganga, Yamuna, Mahanadi, Godavari, Damodar etc.;
- (b) whether the Government has evaluated the "seriously" polluting industries/factories located on the banks of such rivers and the quality along with the quantity of discharge produced by them, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken action against them, if so, the details for the current plan period;
- (d) whether any directions have been issued by the Hon"ble Supreme Court and National Green Tribunal in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the measures undertaken by the Government to improve the condition of the said rivers and to ensure strict compliance of norms by the said industries?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION  
(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) The Government has notified standards for discharge of effluents from different industrial sectors under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which include discharge into the rivers and lakes. These standards are applicable for all industries in the country irrespective of their location. However, for controlling river pollution particularly of Ganga and its tributaries some specific measures are being taken.

(b) to (d) The National Green Tribunal in its order dated November 17th, 2014 in the matter of C.W.P. No. 3727/ 1985 alongwith 196/2014 has constituted Principal Committee and Implementing Committee

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to evaluate the criteria for Seriously Polluting Industries (SPI) discharging effluents into the rivers. The committees have recommended 33 sectors of industries to be referred as SPIs. Based on these recommendations, the State Pollution Control Boards have provided the list of SPIs. CPCB will ensure verification of compliance of such units.

CPCB has also identified 5 key industrial sectors namely, distillery, sugar, pulp & paper, tannery and textile contributing to organic load being disposed of into the river system. Directions have been issued to these industrial sectors to achieve water conservation and zero liquid discharge. The action plan for achieving the directions is likely to be implemented by March, 2017.

CPCB has also issued directions to Municipal authorities/corporations under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for treatment and utilization of sewage for restoration of water quality of rivers. CPCB has communicated to Chief Secretaries of the states regarding the polluted locations on rivers as well as other water bodies to prepare action plan for improvement of these rivers.

(e) To control water pollution of river Ganga & its tributaries, the CPCB has formulated an action plan for implementation of zero liquid discharge, water conservation and management practices in water polluting industries. The main points are as under:

(i) Preparation of Guidelines on techno-economic feasibility of implementation of Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), water conservation and management practices in water pollution industries, with special focus on Ganga Basin States.

(ii) Issue of directions to nine Ganga basin State Pollution Control Board's directing them to follow time bound action plans in Distillery, Sugar, Pulp & Paper, Tannery and Textile sectors.

(iii) Preparation and submission of action plans to achieve Zero Liquid Discharge in Tannery, Distillery and Textiles (Medium, Large and cluster based textile units).

(iv) Directions for installation of online effluent monitoring systems (OEMS) were issued to all 17 categories of highly polluting industries for compliance verification with respect to notified standards.

(v) Revised standards have been notified for Sugar sector vide notification dated 14.01.2016 including the treated effluent discharge limit of 200 lit/tonne of cane crushed to reduce the pollution load.

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