

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3197
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019

Pollution in major rivers

3197. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

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

- (a) the criteria/norms of standard level of water pollution for major rivers of the country set by Government;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any study to check the water pollution vis-a-vis standard level of pollution of such rivers during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details and outcome thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the complaints against sugar mills and other operational factories for causing water pollution of such rivers received by Government during the said period, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has specified water quality criteria for various 'Designated Best Uses' based on parameters like, Total Coliform/ Fecal Coliform, pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Free Ammonia, Electrical Conductivity, Sodium Absorption Ratio and Boron. Use based classification of surface water is given in **Annexure I**.

(b) CPCB along with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) is monitoring the water quality of water bodies under the National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP) through a network of monitoring stations across the country. The water quality is assessed for various parameters, including physico-chemical, bacteriological, heavy metals, pesticides, etc. CPCB has identified 351 polluted river stretched on 323 rivers during 2018. State-wise number of polluted river stretches is given in **Annexure II**.

(c) & (d) As per CPCB, the number of complaints received by the Board against sugar mills during last three years are: 20 number of complaints for year 2016 – 17, 13 number of complains for year 2017-18 and 08 number of complaints for year 2018-19. Further, CPCB has identified a total of 2743 Grossly Polluting Industries discharging effluent into water bodies. Out of these, 2497 industries are operational and 246 industries are self-closed. Number of complying and non-complying units are 2222 and 275, respectively.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring and inspecting 17 categories of highly polluting industries including Sugar mills based on alerts generated from Online Continuous Effluent/ Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) and taking appropriate action against non-complying industries as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. A total of 592 industries have been inspected till 14.06.2019 and 347 directions issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to non-complying industries and 1 direction issued under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air and Water Acts to State Pollution Control Board.

In addition to these the Government has taken various initiatives to check river pollution, inter alia, include formulation and notification of standards for effluents from industries, operations or processes; enforcing of these standards by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) through consent mechanism and regular monitoring; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of water quality; promotion of cleaner production processes; installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units; issuance of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and under Section 18(1)(b) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, etc.

ANNEXURE I

Annexure - I referred in reply to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3197 due for answer on 22.07.2019 regarding 'Pollution in major rivers'

Use based classification of surface waters in India

DESIGNATED-BEST-USE	CLASS OF WATER	CRITERIA
Drinking Water Source without conventional treatment but after disinfection	A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 50 or less 2. pH between 6.5 and 8.5 3. Dissolved Oxygen 6mg/l or more 4. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20°C 2mg/l or less
Outdoor bathing (Organised)	B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 500 or less 2. pH between 6.5 and 8.5 3. Dissolved Oxygen 5mg/l or more 4. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20°C 3mg/l or less
Drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection	C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 5000 or less 2. pH between 6 to 9 3. Dissolved Oxygen 4mg/l or more 4. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20°C 3mg/l or less
Propagation of Wild life and Fisheries	D	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. pH between 6.5 to 8.5 2. Dissolved Oxygen 4mg/l or more 3. Free Ammonia (as N) 1.2 mg/l or less
Irrigation, Industrial Cooling, Controlled Waste disposal	E	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. pH between 6.0 to 8.5 2. Electrical Conductivity at 25°C micro mhos/cm Max.2250 3. Sodium absorption Ratio Max. 26 4. Boron Max. 2mg/l

ANNEXURE II

Annexure - II referred in reply to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3197 due for answer on 22.07.2019 regarding 'Pollution in major rivers'

Number of Polluted River Stretches in each State/UT

S NO	STATE	NO OF STRETCHES
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	5
2	ASSAM	44
3	BIHAR	6
4	CHHATTISGARH	5
5	DAMAN, DIU AND DADRA NAGAR HAVELI	1
6	DELHI	1
7	GOA	11
8	GUJARAT	20
9	HARYANA	2
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	7
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR	9
12	JHARKHAND	7
13	KARNATAKA	17
14	KERALA	21
15	MADHYA PRADESH	22
16	MAHARASHTRA	53
17	MANIPUR	9
18	MEGHALAYA	7
19	MIZORAM	9
20	NAGALAND	6
21	ODISHA	19
22	PUDUCHERRY	2
23	PUNJAB	4
24	RAJASTHAN	2
25	SIKKIM	4
26	TAMIL NADU	6
27	TELANGANA	8
28	TRIPURA	6
29	UTTAR PRADESH	12
30	UTTARAKHAND	9
31	WEST BENGAL	17