

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3411
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018

Effluents discharged in Sutlej River

3411. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR:
SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the untreated sewage and industrial effluents are being discharged in Sutlej River and its tributaries;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this polluted water is being released in the canals of Rajasthan at Harike;
- (c) whether Government intends to take action as per law, against the industries and Municipal Authorities in Punjab which are directly responsible for polluting the canal water being supplied to Rajasthan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) According to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), river Sutlej after crossing Nangal, passes through Ropar and reaches Harike Head Works. The water quality of river Sutlej deteriorates due to discharge of untreated/partially treated sewage and industrial effluent from cities and towns of Punjab including Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Phagwara. The water quality of river and canal does not conform to the prescribed primary water quality criteria norms for Total Coliform.

(c) to (e) The action taken with regard to industries and municipalities *inter alia* include: (i) installation of online (24x7) monitoring devices and adoption of water conservation practices by industry; (ii) issuance of directions on 09.10.2015 by CPCB under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Ludhiana Municipal Corporation for treatment and utilization of sewage for restoration of water quality of Sutlej river; (iii) issuance of directions on 10.11.2014 by CPCB under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants at Ludhiana and Common Effluent Treatment Plant, Leather Complex at Jalandhar; (iv) water quality monitoring by the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) at different locations along Sutlej river; (v) assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for implementation of projects that include interception and diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, crematoria, afforestation, public participation and awareness programmes.
