

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3079
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

CETPs not complying with green norms around Buddha Nullah river

3079. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

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

- (a) details of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) that are not complying with green norms around Buddha Nullah river;
- (b) details of steps taken by Government for cleaning and rejuvenation of Buddha Nullah river; and
- (c) details of steps taken by the CPCB towards cleaning of the river and weeding out sources of toxic pollutants in the region?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c):

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out inspection of the following 4 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) during 22nd - 23rd April, 2024 and 24th-25th December, 2024:

- CETP 50 MLD, Near Central Jail, Tajpur Road (Focal Point Module), Ludhiana (Punjab).
- CETP 40 MLD Near Central Jail, Tajpur Road (Focal Point Module), Ludhiana (Punjab).
- CETP 15 MLD, Bahadur Ke Road, District Ludhiana (Punjab).
- CETP 500 KLD (for Electroplating industries), Phase-VIII, Focal Point Ludhiana (Punjab).

Based on the inspections, the above-mentioned CETPs were found non-complying with respect to prescribed discharge standards and the disposal conditions specified in the environmental clearances granted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

CPCB, in exercise of powers conferred under section 18 (I) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and control of pollution) Act, 1981, issued

directions dated 12.08.2024 to Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) to take appropriate action including imposing Environmental Compensation (EC). Based on the inspection held during 24th-25th December, 2024, letter to PPCB was issued vide letter dated 19.03.2025 for the compliance of the above directions issued by CPCB and the recent non-compliance observed in December, 2024 visit in a time bound matter.

Further, based on the water quality data for the years 2016 and 2017, 351 polluted river stretches (“PRS”) were identified in year 2018 in the country out of which, 04 PRS were identified in Punjab State including the polluted stretch of River Sutlej from Rupnagar to Harike Bridge under Priority Class I (BOD is >30 mg/L). The Buddha Nallah discharges into river Sutlej in between this identified polluted river stretch. Further, CPCB & Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) jointly carried out monitoring of River Sutlej and Buddha Nallah in the month of April, 2024.

The following measures have been taken by the government for prevention and control of river/water pollution, including that from Buddha Nallah:

- The comprehensive action plans have been prepared for rejuvenation of identified PRS by River Rejuvenation Committees (RRC/s) constituted by the respective State Government/ UT Administration, under the overall supervision and coordination of Principal Secretary, Environment of the concerned State /Union Territory. The action plans cover relevant aspects such as Source control, River catchment/ Basin Management, Flood Plain Zone protection and its management. The RRC for Punjab state has prepared Action Plan for rejuvenation of polluted stretch of Sutlej river in which Buddha Nallah is one of the pollution source.
- The progress of the implementation of action plans is reviewed by the RRCs at State Level and Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) constituted by Ministry of Jal Shakti at Central Level.
- Also, all SPCBs & PCCs including PPCB enforce effluent discharge norms and provisions under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, as well as the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, by taking action against defaulting industries in their respective states/UTs. Direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has been issued to all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) by CPCB on 09/10/2015. As per the direction, the ULBs are to setup STPs of adequate capacities and provide sewerage system to cover the entire local/urban areas and to ensure complete treatment of sewage generated.
