

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3116**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.01.2018

**Surface Water Pollution**

3116. SHRI PINAKI MISRA

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

- (a) whether the WATER AID, an international organization has stated in its report that eighty per cent of the surface water in India is polluted and is dangerous to health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial action the Government proposes to take to get over the situation and preserve the purity of the surface water?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) to (c) The surface water quality is monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for Union Territories across the country at 3000 stations under National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP). Data so collected is collated, compiled and analysed by CPCB. As per available data, 58% observations conform to criteria related to Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), 47% with respect to total coliform and 62% to faecal coliform. Water Aid has not undertaken any independent assessment of surface water pollution in India and its report is based on assessment of CPCB and other organizations. Government has taken a number of steps to check surface water pollution which inter alia include directions issued by CPCB to SPCBs requiring local/urban bodies to set up sewerage system for sewage collection, treatment and disposal. The direction further enjoins upon sewage treatment plants to meet the standards laid down for treated effluent to be used for non-potable purpose. To mitigate industrial pollution, directions have been issued for installation of online (24x7) monitoring devices and adoption of water conservation practices, besides notification of standards with respect to effluent discharge.

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