

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3676
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2018

Pollution of Water Resources

3676. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is mulling to formulate a law to punish people who pollute/contaminate water resources in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any of the States has such laws/acts and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether such initiatives are reported from other countries across the globe and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 have enabling provisions for necessary measures required for abatement of pollution of water resources including power to give directions for closure, prohibition or regulation of any industry, operation or process. These acts also provide for penalty for contravention of the provision of acts, rules, orders or directions issued there under.

The State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees created under Water (Protection and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 are empowered to take action against violations under these acts.

(c) The 'Polluter Pays Principle' finds prominent place in Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The outcome of conference in the form of Agenda 21 has been adopted by most of the countries worldwide for conservation and protection of nature and natural resources. These countries have their own initiatives with respect to legislative and regulatory mechanisms for abatement of pollution of water resources.
