

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOKSABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2786**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2018

**Water and Noise Pollution**

2786. SHRI NATUBHAI GOMANBHAI PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to reduce water and noise pollution in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) Steps taken by Government to mitigate water pollution, *inter alia*, include preparation and implementation of action plans for critically polluted areas through the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs); notification of industry specific effluent standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; issuance of Consent to Establish/ Consent to Operate to industries; compliance of the notified standards related to industrial discharges and other operational activities; carrying out surprise inspection of highly polluting large and medium units; directions for installation of online effluent and emission monitoring systems for continuous check on pollution levels; revised criteria for categorization of industries; and issuance of various directions under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

This Ministry also supplements the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), on cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Governments. NRCP (excluding Ganga and its tributaries which is handled by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation from 01.08.2014 onwards) has so far covered polluted stretches of 32 rivers in 76 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 4581.91 crore and Central share of Rs. 2258.72 crore has been released to the State Government for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. Sewage treatment capacity of 2472.43 mld (million litres per day) has been created so far under NRCP.

The steps taken to reduce noise pollution, *inter-alia*, include notification of Noise (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000, monitoring of ambient noise levels by Central Pollution Control Board in association with SPCBs in 7 metropolitan cities, advisories for noise

monitoring on the occasion of Diwali, prohibition of the use of fireworks between 10.00 p.m. and 06.00 a.m., publicity regarding the ill effects of fire-crackers, sensitization of students through course curriculum besides general awareness building of public at large to avoid bursting of fire-crackers, and issuance of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and under section 18(1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

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