

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOKSABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1859**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2018

**Disposal of Hazardous Industrial Waste into Rivers**

1859. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of rivers where any kind of hazardous industrial waste are being disposed;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government during last five years to prevent untreated heavy metal waste and hazardous waste from being disposed directly into rivers in and around Delhi; and
- (c) the new technologies adopted by Government for treatment of hazardous wastes from industries before being disposed into rivers?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitor the water quality of rivers across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. As per the report published by CPCB in September 2018, 351 polluted river stretches have been identified on 323 rivers based on Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels, a key indicator of pollution. The major source of pollution of these rivers is discharge of untreated and partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents.

As per the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2016 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, industrial hazardous wastes are required to be disposed off in an environmentally sound manner. Compliance with these rules is monitored by the CPCB and SPCBs/PCCs and action is taken in cases of violation by industries. With respect to the industries in Delhi, regular inspections are undertaken by Delhi Pollution Control Committee to ensure compliance.

Steps taken by the Government, in addition to the notification of the aforesaid rules, to implement environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, *inter alia*, include availability of 42 Common Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDFs) in 18 States/Union Territories; establishment of 1733 authorized recyclers of commonly recyclable hazardous wastes having authorized capacity of 6.99 million tonnes; permission for 65 cement plants for co-processing; development of 224 facilities for utilization of various categories of hazardous waste as a resource/for energy recovery;

development of guidelines and manuals for hazardous waste management in various industrial sectors; notification of industry specific effluent standards; issuance of directions to SPCBs/PCCs to ensure compliance; installation of Online Continuous Emission/Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) in 17 categories of highly polluting industries, etc. Further, CPCB has developed 46 Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) to enable waste processing industries to utilize various streams of hazardous wastes such as spent solvent, spent catalyst, vanadium sludge, coal tar, aluminium dross, phenolic wastewater, spent carbon, etc. and these SoPs have been circulated to all SPCBs/PCCs for granting authorization to industries after verification of minimal requisite facilities stipulated under the respective SoP.

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