

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3930**  
ANSWERED ON 12.12.2019

**RELEASE OF POLLUTED WATER INTO HARIKE BARRAGE**

3930. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that Rajasthan filed a complaint on 25.05.2010 with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to initiate action as per the law against the polluted water received at Harike Barrage from municipal sewage and industrial effluent of number of cities/ towns of Punjab;
- (b) if so, the reasons for release of polluted water into Harike Barrage more than 9 years after Government of Rajasthan filed complaint with CPCB;
- (c) the results of joint monitoring conducted with CPCB and Rajasthan Water Resources Department during July, 2017;
- (d) whether the Union Government considers the total coliform and fecal coliform content found in Ferozpur feeder as safe levels as per the July 2017 tests;
- (e) if not, the reasons for the CPCB not solving the issue yet; and
- (f) the details of the officials in-charge of this matter and the appellate authority in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a) & (b) As per Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB), Government of Rajasthan have informed that polluted water is being discharged into the canals of Rajasthan through Harike Barrage which is main source of water supply for irrigation and drinking purposes.

It is the responsibility of State Governments and Urban Local Bodies concerned to set up facilities for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage being generated and to ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into rivers and water bodies. As per the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units are required to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and treat their effluents to comply with environmental standards before discharging into rivers.

(c) & (d) Joint monitoring was conducted by CPCB with Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) and Rajasthan Water Resources Department during July, 2017. Water quality data of River Sutlej & Rajasthan Canals carried out in July, 2017 are detailed below:

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River Sutlej : BOD 1-14 mg/l, DO 4-8.9 mg/l, total coliform 1300-3300 MPN/100 ml and fecal coliform 200 -450 MPN/100 ml

River Beas : BOD 1 mg/l , DO 8.8 mg/l, total coliform 13000 MPN/100 ml and fecal coliform 1700 MPN/100 ml

Rajasthan feeder canal : BOD 2 mg/l, DO 7.4 mg/l, total coliform 13000 MPN/100 ml and fecal coliform 1700 MPN/100 ml

Ferozpur feeder : BOD 2 mg/l, DO 7.7 mg/l, total coliform 310000 MPN/100 ml, and fecal coliform 310000 MPN/100 ml

Sutlej after confluence of Budha Nalla: BOD 15 mg/l, DO 3mg/l, total coliform 24000 MPN/100 ml and fecal coliform 24000 MPN/100 ml.

In Ferozpur feeder, both total coliform and fecal coliform counts exceed the limits prescribed for bathing water quality.

(e) & (f) The CPCB has communicated the findings/recommendations of the water quality study to Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), Rajasthan Pollution Control Board (RSPCB), Rajasthan Water Resources Department and Ministry of Environment & Forests for necessary action.

Further, action taken by Central Government to control pollution in River Sutlej inter-alia include, issuance of directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018 in the matter to the State Authorities concerned, issuance of show cause notice under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Municipal Commissioner, Ludhiana Municipal Corporation (MCL) on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 for non-compliance of sewage treatment plants installed at Ludhiana, joint monitoring of River Sutlej and Rajasthan canals starting from October, 2019 once in two months for a period of one year to assess the water quality of river Sutlej & Rajasthan canals.

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi has passed an order directing all the States and Union Territories (UTs) to prepare action plans for bringing all the polluted river stretches up to the bathing standards. In compliance of Hon'ble NGT order, action plans have been prepared by Government of Punjab and have been approved by CPCB. The plan is presently being implemented under the overall supervision of Government of Punjab.

Monitoring Committee constituted by Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 101/2014 under the Chairmanship of Justice Jasbir Singh is presently reviewing the implementation of action plans prepared by the Punjab State periodically.

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