

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*352**

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

**POLLUTED WATER IN CANALS OF RAJASTHAN**

† \*352 SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that the water coming from Harike Barrage into the canals of Rajasthan is being highly polluted due to the discharge of industrial effluent of Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent the discharge of industrial effluent in the canals of Rajasthan as the impurities even after filtering the water is affecting the health of people?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. \*352 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “POLLUTED WATER IN CANALS OF RAJASTHAN”**

**(a) & (b)** River Beas merges with the River Sutlej near Harike Barrage in Punjab. After confluence, the major part of the water is diverted through two canals namely Indira Gandhi Canal (Rajasthan canal) and Firozpur feeder.

As per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the water quality of river Sutlej deteriorates due to discharge of untreated/ partially treated sewage and industrial effluent from cities and towns of Punjab including Ludhiana (through Buddha Nullah Drain), Jalandhar and Phagwara (through East Bein). CPCB periodically monitors water quality of River Sutlej, River Beas, Rajasthan Canal, Buddha Nullah drain and East Bein drain jointly with Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB).

The water quality of Indira Gandhi Canal (Rajasthan Canal) and Firozpur Feeder Canal at Harike Barrage was monitored during April, 2024 by CPCB in association with PPCB. The analysis results of the samples collected from two canals with respect to physico-chemical, biological and heavy metals parameters are placed as **Annexure**.

The analysis results indicate that water quality of Indira Gandhi Canal is complying to the ‘C’ class of Water Quality Criteria for Designated Best Use i.e. Drinking Water Source after conventional treatment and disinfection. However, water quality of Firozpur Feeder Canal is not complying to the ‘C’ class of Water Quality Criteria for Designated Best Use with respect to Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) (BOD was found as 5mg/L against norm of 3 mg/L or less).

**(c)** Cleaning/Rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous process. It is the primary responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies. This Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in rivers/tributaries in Ganga basin through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange Program, and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan for other rivers in the country. The schemes like AMRUT, Smart City run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs are helping Urban Local bodies to create sewerage infrastructure. Central Pollution Control Board keeps on directing Urban Local bodies and State Pollution Control Board for compliance as per Environmental Protection Act.

State government of Punjab had undertaken Buddha Nallah rejuvenation project with cost of approx. 650 Cr. Under the project, two new STPs of 285 MLD have been established. 4 old STPs of 418 MLD have been rejuvenated. 2 ETPs of 6 MLD capacity for management of dairy waste have also been established. In addition to this, 3 CETPs of 105 MLD for treatment of industrial waste water have been established at Ludhiana.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued orders from time to time related to polluted river stretches. In Original Application No. 673/2018, in which the NGT directed that all States/UTs should prepare action plans for the rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country identified in 2018 by Central Pollution Control Board. As per the direction, the implementation of said action plans has to be reviewed at all States/UTs and the central level. In compliance of these orders the States have got their action plan prepared and got approved from the competent authority. For monitoring, Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) has been constituted at Central level under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India. So far, 19 CMC meetings have been held.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*352 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024 REGARDING “POLLUTED WATER IN CANALS OF RAJASTHAN”****Analysis results of Water Quality of monitored canals**

S. No.	Parameters	Indira Gandhi Canal	Firozpur Feeder
1	Dissolved Oxygen, mg/L	6.9	6.5
2	pH	7.9	7.6
3	BOD, mg/L	2.3	5
4	COD, mg/L	7	14
5	Chloride, mg/L	32	48
6	TC, MPN/100 ml	17x10 <sup>2</sup>	700
7	FC, MPN/100 ml	22x10 <sup>2</sup>	17x10 <sup>2</sup>
8	As, mg/L	BDL	BDL
9.	Cd, mg/L	BDL	BDL
10.	Cr, mg/L	BDL	BDL
11.	Co, mg/L	BDL	BDL
12.	Cu, mg/L	BDL	BDL
13.	Fe, mg/L	0.99	0.61
14.	Pb, mg/L	0.02	BDL
15.	Mn, mg/L	0.08	0.08
16.	Ni, mg/L	BDL	BDL
17.	Zn, mg/L	BDL	BDL

BDL: Below detectable limit

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