

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1613**

ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

**FLOWING OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS INTO RIVERS**

1613. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI

SHRI ARUN GOVIL

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken/being taken to reduce high level of pollution in the Sutlej and Beas rivers, particularly with regard to untreated sewage and industrial effluents;
- (b) the detailed plan of the Government to increase sewage treatment capacity to prevent further pollution of rivers in Punjab;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to prevent untreated flowing in Meerut and surrounding areas into river and on the land;
- (d) whether release of industrial effluents into the river is making it infamous as Kali Nadi in Meerut whereas its water is clean at its origin; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken/likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

**(a)** As per the last report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2022 on pollution assessment of rivers in the country, 311 polluted stretches were identified on 279 rivers, including one stretch on river Satluj in the State of Punjab. No stretch was found polluted on river Beas.

River Satluj gets polluted with the discharge of Buddha Nallah, carrying municipal, industrial, dairy and other wastes from Ludhiana town. Punjab Pollution Control Board has informed that to address the pollution concerns, the State Government of Punjab has undertaken Buddha Nallah Rejuvenation project which mainly included setting up sewage treatment plants (STPs) of 225 & 60 million litres per day (MLD), rehabilitation of four STPs, two effluent treatment plants of capacity 3.75 MLD & 2.25 MLD for treatment of waste water from dairy complexes in Ludhiana.

In order to prevent and control of industrial discharge from clusters of small/medium scale dyeing industries in Ludhiana, Common Effluent Treatment Plants of capacity 40 MLD, 50 MLD & 15 MLD, have been made operational.

For conservation of rivers, this Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/Union Territories by providing financial and technical assistance for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of

rivers in the country through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange for rivers in Ganga basin, and Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers. Under NRCP, pollution abatement schemes for conservation of Satluj and Beas rivers in Punjab were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.717.32 crores, and sewage treatment capacity of 648 MLD has been created so far.

**(b)** The State Government of Punjab has informed that in order to increase sewage treatment capacity in the State, 54 STPs of total capacity 256 MLD are in different stages of implementation. Also, out of proposed 99 STPs, 45 STPs of total capacity 247 MLD are reported to be under tendering or preparation of Detailed Project Report.

**(c) to (e)** Rivers in the country are polluted mainly due to discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents in their respective catchments, problems in operation and maintenance of sewage/effluent treatment plants, agricultural run-off, dumping of solid wastes, lack of dilution and other non-point sources of pollution.

In case of discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB has informed that regular monitoring of grossly polluting industries (GPIs) is being done. There were 64 GPIs located in Meerut, out of which, 4 fall in catchment area of Hindon while 60 are located in the catchment of river Kali East. Out of these 64, 17 have been self closed. Out of operational 47 GPIs, 42 are complying with the discharge norms. The regulatory bodies take punitive action against non complying GPIs.

To tackle domestic wastewater from Meerut city in the State of Uttar Pradesh, National Mission for Clean Ganga has sanctioned a project for interception and diversion of sewage and setting up STP of 220 MLD at a cost of Rs.690.71 crore for pollution abatement for the river Kali East under Namami Gange Program.

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