

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1355**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

**Shortage of Field Level Staff in CPCB/SPCBs**

1355. SHRI SACHITHANANTHAM R:

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

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), which are our primary line of defense for environmental monitoring and enforcement, are critically crippled by a severe shortage of field-level staff, such as Environmental Engineers and Scientists;
- (b) if so, the details of current total sanctioned strength and the number of vacant positions for field-level staff in the CPCB and all SPCBs combined; and
- (c) the details of the concrete plan and timeline proposed by the Government to address this chronic manpower shortage that is paralyzing our environmental governance?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) and (b): The detail of Scientific & Technical posts (field-level staff) in the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 28 State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), and 08 Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are as below:-

Boards/ Committees	Scientific & Technical posts	
	Sanctioned	Vacant
CPCB	393	64 (16.28%) (as on 30/11/2025)
SPCBs	6137	2921 (47.59%) (as on 31/08/2025)
PCCs	402	176 (43.78%) (as on 31/08/2025)
Total	6932	3161

(c) : The State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees are under the

administrative control of respective State Governments/UT Administration and the responsibility to fill up vacancies in SPCBs/PCCs lies with the concerned State Govt./ UT Administration. Further, appointment of officers and employees of the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees is done by the SPCBs/PCCs under their respective regulations.

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