

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2543
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026

Release of Toxic Wastewater into Kolak and Daman Ganga River

2543. SHRI PATEL UMESHBHAI BABUBHAI:

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

- (a) whether it is true that various industries are releasing wastewater into rivers without adequate treatment;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the waters of the Kolak River and Daman Ganga River have become highly polluted due to release of toxic wastewater from the chemical and pharmaceutical factories in Vapi (Gujarat);
- (c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board and the Gujarat Pollution Control Board have prepared any inspection reports in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the concrete actions taken/being taken by the Government so far to check this pollution and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government is considering to form a Special Task Force to protect the groundwater of Daman and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e)

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified "Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from various Industries" under Schedule-I of the Environment Protection Rules, 1986. So far, 79 industrial specific environmental standards have been notified. The industrial sectors, for which specific standards are not available, general standards as notified under Schedule-VI of the Environment Protection Rules, 1986 are applicable.

It is mandated for all the industries to obtain Consent to Establish/Consent to Operate from the respective State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committee (SPCBs/PCCs) as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. SPCBs/PCCs ensure the compliance of prescribed standards notified by the MoEF&CC, Government of India. In the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, all industries are mandatorily required to ensure adequate treatment of wastewater and to undertake reuse and/or recycling of the treated effluent

within their respective premises. Discharge or release of effluent into any river is strictly prohibited.

Further, CPCB in association with SPCBs/PCCs monitors water quality of aquatic resources at 4922 locations under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) including 16 monitoring locations on River Damanganga and 02 monitoring locations on River Kolak. The water quality data for the monitored locations on River Damanganga and River Kolak in the year 2024 is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

CETP Vapi is equipped with Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS). Monthly monitoring of the downstream stretch of River Damanganga at Kachigam Bridge is carried out after the final outlet of CETP. Data from the past year is attached as **Annexure-II**. The GPCB Regional Office, Vapi, conducts monthly monitoring of River Kolak at Pataliya Bridge. Data from the past year is attached as **Annexure-III**.

To protect the groundwater of Daman and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) regulates ground water extraction by industrial, infrastructure and mining projects by issuing NOC to such projects as per guidelines notified by Ministry of Jal Shakti vide SO 3289(E), dated 24.09.2020 and amendments thereto vide SO 1509(E), dated 29.03.2023. These guidelines have provisions for prevention of pollution/contamination of groundwater such as following.

- Injection of treated/untreated waste water into aquifer system is strictly prohibited.
- Industries which are likely to pollute ground water (chemical, pharmaceutical, dyes, pigments, paints, textiles, tannery, pesticides/insecticides, fertilizers, slaughter house, explosives etc.) shall store the harvested rain water in surface storage tanks for use in the industry and not recharge it.
- Industries which are likely to cause ground water pollution e.g. Tanning, Slaughter Houses, Dye, Chemical/ Petrochemical, Coal washeries, other hazardous units etc. (as per CPCB list) need to undertake necessary well head protection measures to ensure prevention of ground water pollution.
- The NOC issued by CGWA contains following condition.
 - “The Project Proponent shall take all necessary measures to prevent contamination of groundwater in the premises, failing which the firm shall be responsible for any consequences arising thereupon”.
 - The guidelines also have provision for penalty of Rs 10, 00,000/- towards ‘Injection of treated/untreated water into the aquifer system’. However, no such case has been reported so far.

Annexure-I

Water quality data for the monitored locations of River Damanganga in the year 2024

Monitoring Location	Dissolved O ₂ (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing	>5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		< 2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Damanganga at downstream of Of Madhuban, Daman	4	7.4	7.34	8.42	1	1	2	13
River Damanganga at Zari Cause Way Bridge, Daman	3.2	7.5	7.28	8.12	1	8	11	900
River Damanganga at discharge point Of Distillery, Daman	2.5	5.3	7.6	7.99	2.2	9	900	900
River Damanganga at Daman Jetty, Moti Daman	4.1	7.5	7.52	8.1	1	10	110	1600
River Damanganga at Vapi Weir, Vapi, Daman	5.8	7.4	7.7	8.3	1	3	60	280
River Damanganga at Lavacha Temple, Silvassa	5.8	7.5	7.81	8.67	1	4	6	280
River Damanganga downstream of M/s Surat Beverages, Village Dadra, Silvassa	5.6	7.5	7.75	8.47	1	2	70	500
River Damanganga at Naroli Bridge, Silvassa	4.9	7.6	7.79	8.54	1	2	2	50
River Damanganga at Village Namdha, Vapi	1.9	6.9	7.53	7.98	1	6	60	900
River Daman Ganga At Zeri Causeway Bridge, Daman (Gujarat And U/S of Daman, Diu,Dadar & Nagar Haveli And Gujarat)	2.7	6.3	7.56	7.78	2.2	9.5	9400	540000
River Damanganga At Kachigaon U/S At Gidc Wier, River Damanganga at Gidc Wier,	6.8	7.2	7.45	8.06	1	1	12	34
River Damanganga At Kachigaon D\S	5.4	7	7.21	8.03	1	1.6	17	94

(Daman),River Damanganga at Kachigaon Bridge								
River Daman Ganga At D/S Of Gide Weir, Near Nh-48, Vapi, Gujarat (U/S of Daman,Diu,Dadar & Nagar Haveli And Gujarat)	6.5	8	7.2	8.48	1	2.6	68	7900

Water quality data for the monitored locations of River Kolak in the year 2024

Monitoring Location	Dissolved O2 (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing	>5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		< 3 mg/L		< 2500 MPN/100 ML	
River Kolak at Patalia Bridge	5.8	7	7.25	8.09	1	1.4	13	58
River Kolak at Railway Bridge No. 313 Vapi, Valsad,	5.8	6.9	7.31	8.08	1	1.5	14	43

Annexure – II

Analysis results of water sample collected from River Damanganga downstream at Kachigam bridge, at-Kachigam for period Jan 2025 to Jan 2026

Parameters	pH	BOD (mg/L)	DO (mg/L)
Month & year			
Limit	5.5-9.0	30	4
01/01/2025	7.57	1.5	6.4
03/02/2025	8.17	1.4	6.5
03/03/2025	7.88	1.5	6.4
01/04/2025	7.73	1.5	6.5
02/05/2025	7.16	1.5	6.1
03/06/2025	8.25	1.6	6.7
03/07/2025	7.73	1.3	6.9
05/08/2025	7.86	1	6.9
01/09/2025	7.32	1	6.8
04/10/2025	7.44	1	7
06/11/2025	7.60	1	6.8
02/12/2025	7.28	1.1	6.8
Average	7.7	1.3	6.65

Parameters	pH	BOD (mg/L)	DO (mg/L)
Month & year			
Limit	5.5-9.0	30	4
02/01/2026	7.50	1.1	6.8
Average	7.50	1.1	6.8

Annexure – III

**Analysis results of water sample collected from River Kolak at Patalia Bridge, Patalia
Vapi for period Jan 2025 to Jan 2026**

Parameters	pH	BOD (mg/L)	DO (mg/L)
Month & year			
Limit	5.5-9.0	30	4
03/01/2025	7.84	1	6.9
01/02/2025	7.45	1.1	6.8
01/03/2025	7.95	1.1	6.9
02/04/2025	7.54	1.6	6
01/05/2025	7.33	1.4	6.5
02/06/2025	7.63	1.5	6.6
02/07/2025	7.58	-	6.9
03/08/2025	7.95	1	6.9
01/09/2025	7.6	1.1	6.8
03/10/2025	7.52	1.2	6.9
04/11/2025	7.62	1.2	6.8
01/12/2025	7.21	1.3	6.9
Average	7.60	1.23	6.74

Parameters	pH	BOD (mg/L)	DO (mg/L)
Month & year			
Limit	5.5-9.0	30	4
01/01/2026	7.81	1.3	6.9
Average	7.81	1.3	6.9