

Treatment of Sewage Waste Water

*574. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main cities of India generate about 2000 crore litres of sewage waste water per year out of which only one tenth is treated;

(b) whether the total sewage generation from our major cities has increased six times in the last 50 years;

(c) whether water requirement for industry have increased 40 times in the last 50 years but the waste is not being treated after discharge, thus leading to pollution of our rivers;

(d) whether the municipal solid waste has grown seven times and disposal continues to be unscientific and hazardous; and

(e) what action Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) (a) and (b) As per the survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 1994-95 in Class-I cities having population of more than 1 lakh, the quantity of sewage waste water generated was 1577 crore litres out of which 24 per cent was receiving treatment. The information available indicates that the total sewage generated in these cities had doubled over a period of 16 year from 1978-79 to 1994-95.

(c) Water requirement for industry has generally increased over the years, but no specific assessment report is available on the same. Since this is a Stated subject, the information is not being monitored by this Ministry. As regards industrial waste water treatment, the CPCB has reported that out of 1551 units of highly polluting industries, 1265 units have provided adequate facilities to comply with the prescribed standards.

(d) As per the survey carried out by the CPCB in 1994-95 in Class-I cities having population of more than 1 lakh, the estimated municipal solid waste generated was 48, 134 tonnes per day and the disposal of this waste in a large number of cities was unscientific.

(e) The CPCB and Ministry of Environment & Forest have reported the following action taken in the matter:—

(i) Industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes have been identified and necessary action taken against 847 defaulting units.

(ii) Civic authorities responsible for treatment and disposal of sewage have been persuaded to set up sewage treatment plants.

(iii) Under the Centrally sponsored National River Conservation plan (NRCP), a total of 152 schemes have been sanctioned for pollution abatement in 46 towns located along 18 inter-State rivers in 10 States and Central share of Rs. 40.82 crores released till 31.3.98

(iv) Civic authorities responsible for solid waste management have been suggested action points for adoption.

(v) Necessary directions have been issued under Section 18 of the Water (prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to all State Pollution Boards and Pollution Control Committees in Union Territories for further directions to civic authorities to ensure proper management of sewage and solid waste. Besides the position stated above, sanitation being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Governments and urban local bodies to provide necessary infrastructure. There are no Centrally sponsored schemes with this ministry at present under which funds can be provided for treatment of waste water and solid waste management.

Expenditure on Mentally Handicapped People

* 575. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total budget of Government for expenditure on mentally handicapped people;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of deserving poor people do not get any service;

(c) what steps will be taken to enhance services for the mentally retarded;