

**Performance of sewage treatment plants in different cities**

637. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any review has been conducted on the performance of sewage treatment plants, in selected cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the sewage plants in major cities treated far less than the sewage generated;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken to improve the performance of sewage treatment plants in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) As per the performance evaluation of the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) carried out by CPCB during 2011 in selected cities in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal, out of 92 STPs, 26 STPs were not found meeting the prescribed standards in respect of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The major reasons for non-compliance include lack of proper operation and maintenance of plants due to inadequate resource mobilization by the States/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), lack of technical manpower and non-availability of regular power supply.

(c) and (d) According to a recent report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), against an estimated sewage generation of about 38254 million litres per day (mld) from the Class I cities and Class II towns of the country, the treatment capacity is available only for 11787 mld. Creation of sewerage infrastructure for its disposal is the responsibility of the State Governments/ULBs. Their efforts are supplemented through Central schemes, such as National River Conservation Plan, National Lake Conservation Plan, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns.

(e) The State Governments/ULBs and their agencies responsible for operation and maintenance of the sewerage infrastructure including STPs, are requested to ensure proper operation and maintenance of assets and capacity building of staff. State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) are vested with the statutory powers under the Water Act, 1974, to take action against defaulting agencies.

**Pending cases for environmental clearance from Gujarat**

638. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases which are pending for environment clearance with the Ministry till date;