

crore. Out of these 31 projects have been completed thereby creating new STP capacity of 468 MLD, rehabilitation of 92 MLD STP capacity and laying of 2268 km sewerage network.

(b) The water quality monitoring results does not indicate any conclusive evidence.

(c) and (d) Industrial pollution from small factories is controlled and regulated by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). Such factories are either required to meet the norms stipulated by SPCBs before discharge into municipal sewer line or have to treat the effluent to meet the norms before discharge into receiving water bodies. At some clusters, provision of Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) has been made for management of industrial effluent from small factories. Appropriate action/measures are taken by SPCB based on their compliance status for discharge of treated effluent.

(e) There is no mismanagement of Namami Gange Programme, over a period of time it has strengthened further through adoption of new and evolving concepts such as "Hybrid Annuity Based public-private partnership (PPP) Model", "One City - One Operator" etc. for ensuring sustainability and improving governance, providing hand holding support to states and resolving bottlenecks through continuous coordination with the state government at various levels.

#### **Punitive action against Ganga river pollution**

†2868. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to take punitive action against those who pollute Ganga river;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (the Act) the Central Government is empowered to take measures necessary for protecting and improving the quality of environment including water, air and land and abatement of environmental pollution.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The punitive action against those who pollute the environment including water, air or land is provided under the provisions of Section 15 of the Act, which stipulates punishment of imprisonment for a term not less than 5 years with fine of one lakh rupees, or with both, and in case the failure or contravention continues, with additional fine of five thousand rupees per day since the first conviction.

Further, as per the provisions of Section 19 of the Act, the Central Government or any authority or officer authorised by the Central Government can initiate action for taking cognizance of offences under the Act for invoking punitive actions provided under Section 15 of the Act.

The Government of India *vide* its Notification S.O. No. 3187(E) dated 07.10.2016 constituted the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) as an authority, under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and also constituted District Ganga Committees in districts abutting River Ganga and its tributaries for taking appropriate action in accordance with law for contravention of any law or the provisions of Notification dated 07.10.2016 resulting in causing pollution in the river Ganga and its tributaries.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is executing a project entitled "Pollution Inventorization, Assessment and Surveillance (PIAS)" under Namami Gange Programme. Under this project in 2018, 961 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) have been inventorized which are operating in the main stem of River Ganga and its tributaries in four states namely Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.

During April, 2018 to July, 2018, 12 Technical institutes were engaged for carrying out inspection of the 961 GPIs and the inspection reports were assessed by the concerned SPCBs. Out of 961 GPIs, 256 units were found closed on the day of inspection, 472 units were found complying with the discharge norms and 211 were found non-complying and 22 units are permanently closed in these states. Respective State Pollution Control Boards issued 113 Closure and 98 Show Cause Notices to these units and the self-closed units were directed to remain closed.

#### **Desiltation of rivers**

2869. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government for desiltation of rivers in the country;