

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 86

ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

**MONITORING OF EFFLUENTS TO REDUCE GROUNDWATER DEPLETION AND
CONTAMINATION**

86. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to maintain a proper record of effluents generated, treated and discharged to monitor the amount of effluents being generated and treated and water being reused by industries to reduce groundwater depletion and contamination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for the same; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJBHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c) Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB) under the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (M/o EF & CC) is the agency monitoring the effluent generation, treatment and discharge by various industrial units/clusters in the country. Industries are largely working under self-regulation regime with regular monitoring and inspections conducted by the designated agencies based on the risk categorization of the industry. CPCB in coordination with the network of State Pollution Control Boards(SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees(PCCs) regulates the effluent discharge by monitoring the industries for compliance of laid down emission standards and taking action against the violators.

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India notifies “Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from various Industries” under Schedule-I of Environment Protection Rules, 1986. So far, industry specific environmental standards, for 79 sectors have been notified.

The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) issue consent to establish/ consent to operate and authorization to the industries in the States. In the consent conditions, the SPCBs/PCCs prescribe the permitted discharge quantity, discharge standards and mode of effluent discharge, including provision of water recovery system, wherever applicable. SPCBs/PCCs also monitor the compliance of industrial effluent according to the prescribed norms. In case of non-compliance, action against industry is taken under provisions of the Water Act, 1974, the Air Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

CPCB has directed SPCBs/PCCs to inspect Red, Orange, and Green categories of industries at a minimum inspection frequency of 6 months, 1 year and 2 years, for verification of compliance of

environmental norms. In addition, common waste management/treatment facilities such as STPs, CETPs, CBMWTFs etc., and 17 categories of high pollution potential industries are to be inspected on quarterly basis by SPCBs/PCCs.

Further, CPCB has directed all 17 categories of high pollution potential industries, Grossly Polluting Industries of Ganga basin and common waste treatment facilities to install Online Continuous Effluent/Emission Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) for strengthening monitoring mechanism and effective compliance through self-regulatory mechanism and constant vigil on pollution levels.

Besides this, the National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG) has developed **PRAYAG**, (Platform for Real-time Analysis of Yamuna and Ganga and their tributaries), which serves as a Real-Time Monitoring Centre dedicated to the strategic planning and oversight of projects. It utilizes diverse online dashboards, including the Ganga Tarang Portal, the PMT Tool Dashboard, and the Ganga Districts Performance Monitoring System and live feeds from the CCTV cameras at various STPs and the construction sites. This comprehensive approach ensures efficient real-time analysis and monitoring. The trend analytics on the functioning of the STPs incorporated in the dash board ensures that all monitored STPs are kept operational meeting prescribed output standards 24 by 7.

Apart from the above, Central Ground Water Authority(CGWA) issues NOC for groundwater extraction by industries, infrastructure projects and mining projects. While applying for NOC for groundwater extraction to CGWA, the Project Proponent is required to provide information about the quantum of water to be extracted and also of recycled water to be utilised.

Furthermore, CGWA has taken following steps to reduce groundwater depletion and contamination:

- Guidelines dated 24.09.2020 notified by Ministry of Jal Shakti, and amendments thereto dated 29.03.2023, advise Recycle/ Reuse of water in industries, infrastructure projects and mining projects.
- The Projects extracting more than 100 KLD are required to submit Impact Assessment Report, which includes Water Balance diagram, showing usage of water for different purposes, as well as usage of treated effluents.
- All industries abstracting ground water in excess of 100 KLD are required to undertake biennial water audit, which should recommend reduction in water consumption through recycle/ reuse. All such industries shall be required to reduce their ground water use by at least 20% over the next three years through appropriate means. General conditions in the NOC issued by CGWA include the condition that 'Wherever feasible, requirement of water for greenbelt (horticulture) shall be met from recycled/ treated waste water.'
- The guidelines stipulate that 'Industries which are likely to cause ground water pollution e.g. Tanning, Slaughter Houses, Dye, Chemical/ Petro-chemical, 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.' Measures are enumerated in Annexure-III of the guidelines. General conditions in the NOCs issued by CGWA also reiterate above. General conditions in NOCs also state that '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' and that 'In case the industries that are likely to contaminate groundwater, no recharge measures shall be taken up by the firm inside the plant premises.'