

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1865
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2023**

DEATHS DUE TO WATER POLLUTION

1865 SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding the number of deaths in the country due to water pollution in the last five years, if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government has any specific plans to eliminate deaths due to water pollution in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government had provided any compensation to the families of those deceased persons who died due to water pollution, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(PROF. SATYA PAL SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (c): No such information is available regarding the number of deaths in the country due to water pollution. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with Pollution Control Boards/Committees in different States/Union Territories (UTs), have been monitoring the water quality of rivers and other water bodies across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. Based on water quality monitoring results, pollution assessment of rivers has been carried out by CPCB from time to time.

The mandate to check/control the pollution of water resources, including the pollution due to industrial waste, lies in the domain of the State Government. However, some of the initiatives taken by the Government of India to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, are given below.

- i. Regulation of industrial Pollution is implemented through various provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 under consent mechanism by the respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC).

- ii. Installation of Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) by the industrial units in the country through directives issued by CPCB for getting real time information on the effluent quality. Based on the OCEMS data, non-complying unit have been identified for follow-up inspections and actions.
- iii. Stipulation of general discharge standards and industry specific effluent discharge standards under Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.
- iv. Enforcement of stringent norms, especially zero liquid discharge in certain feasible industrial sectors and persistent defaulters.
- v. Under Namami Gange program, annual inspection of the grossly polluting industries (GPIs) are carried out through technical institutes in five Ganga main stem states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal since 2017, and in four Yamuna main stem states of Uttarakhand, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi since 2020.
- vi. National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is also engaged in monitoring of industries and CETPs located on the bank of river Ganga.
