

Heavy metals entering Delhi supply

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Yamunanagar, on the other hand, reported 176 polluting industries, of which six were major polluters. The area accounts for more than 30 million litres per day (mld) of industrial effluent, which the state government claims is treated and then discharged into drains.

Rampant industrialization along Panipat and Yamunanagar means heavy metals flow freely into the water at Wazirabad from where it is used by Delhi.

Both Haryana and the Central Pollution Control Board admit the ETPs do not treat all the industrial discharge and a lot bypasses the system entirely to enter the river. At Yamunanagar, the

KILLING YAMUNA



NO. OF POLLUTING INDUSTRIES

■ Polluting industries ■ Major industries

PANIPAT



Industrial and domestic effluent | About **100 mld**

YAMUNA NAGAR



Industrial effluent **30.6 mld**
Domestic effluent **Over 50 mld**

mld=million litres per day

Haryana pollution control board says it has closed 14 industries found to be polluting water and asked six plants to upgrade their treatment plants. At Panipat, domestic and industrial discharge

finds its way into drains "directly or indirectly".

"The state board has made it compulsory to install ETPs but they are either under-utilized or not treating up to mark. Effluents have also

been found to bypass the ETPs completely in some cases. On several occasions when pollution levels in the Yamuna rose to such an extent that our water treatment plants had to be shut down because they are incapable of treating industrial pollution," said an official.

Often, the industrial waste finds its way to sewers. Panipat and Yamunanagar have a sewage treatment capacity of 75 mld, but discharge about 150 mld, indicating that not all sewage is treated before it reaches the Yamuna. In February, the YJA had tested water in the Dhanura Escape and found the presence of heavy metals exceeding permissible levels.

Beyond Delhi, Yamuna water is not used for drinking.