

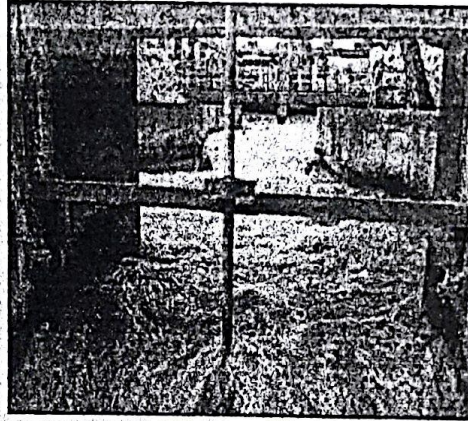
# Malad plant spewing untreated sewage, penalize BMC: MLA

Clara Lewis | TNN

**Mumbai:** Malad MLA Aslam Sheikh of the Congress has asked the government to heavily penalize the BMC for discharging untreated sewage into the Malad creek. He wants the penalty to be charged with retrospective effect as the BMC has failed to comply with pollution norms for more than 15 years.

Sheikh said sewage from Dahisar to Goregaon was being discharged untreated into the sea here. "The Malad sewage treatment plant is very primitive. It only screens the sewage and cleans the grit. The sewage is discharged untreated," he said.

The plant receives around 150 million litres of



MLA Aslam Sheikh has said the 'primitive' plant can only screen sewage, not treat it

waste water daily. "Even a visual inspection of the waste released by the plant is enough to confirm that it is not fulfilling any norms set by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. While most other treatment facilities would retain untreated water in settlement ponds for a minimum period of 24

hours, this plant can only treat water for less than 15 minutes and has to dispose of sewage water within that period as it does not have the holding capacity," he has said in his letter to CM Prithviraj Chavan.

Sheikh has demanded that a secondary treatment plant be set up immediately. Civic officials, however, point out that the file for upgrading the sewage treatment plant under the Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project Phase-II is stuck with the revenue and forest department for environmental clearance. "The land where the treatment plant is to be set up has mangroves. While we have the high court clearance, the government is still to clear it," they said.