

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6453  
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000  
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES  
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;RAMSHETH THAKUR

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have amended the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules of 1989 removing several discrepancies to ensure safe processing and disposal of such wastes besides laying down stringent curbs on import and export;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which it will help in safe disposal of hazardous waste; and
- (d) the details of stringent curbs laid down on import and export?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI)

(a) & (b). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests notified amendments to the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 entitled Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2000 on the 6th January, 2000 after incorporating suggestions/comments received on the preliminary notification issued on 8th January, 1999. Following are the salient features of the amendments including those prescribed to ensure safe disposal and regulation of import and export covered under the Hazardous Waste Rules of 1989 :-

- 1) The schedule listing 18 categories of wastes in the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 has now been substituted with 3 Schedules. Schedule 1 describes the processes and waste streams generating hazardous waste. Units operating these processes are now subject to the rules. A list of concentration limits of constituents in the wastes is indicated in Schedule 2. This concentration limit is to be used as limit for classification/ characterization of waste stream as hazardous/non-hazardous in case of dispute. A separate list of wastes subject to imports and exports, similar to the Basel Convention Annexure VIII and IX, is indicated in schedule 3 with hazard characteristics in part B of the same schedule.
- 2) Responsibility for identification of sites for establishment of Common Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities (CTSDF) and individual TSDF now rests with the occupier, industrial association and the State Govt instead of the state government alone
- 3) Provisions relating to import and export of hazardous waste for recycling has been expanded to describe in detail the procedure being followed. Requirements of re-export under the Basel Convention of illegal traffic of waste has also been incorporated.
- 4) Rules on design, setting up and closure of landfill facilities have been elaborated.
- 5) A manifest system for tracking hazardous waste from the point of generation to the disposal site introduced,.
- 6) The Authorities responsible for regulation of imports and exports and monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the rules have been mentioned in schedule 4; and
- 7) A fee for authorization and import has been prescribed.

(c) & (d) As per the amendment, the Occupier of units generating hazardous wastes will ensure setting up of facilities for disposal in addition to seeking authorisation from the concerned Pollution Control Board for handling wastes and track wastes till its final disposal through a Manifest system. The Occupier has also been made responsible for identification of Site , conduct of EIA and setting up facilities for disposal. Such sites for disposal are to be notified by the State Government. Import of wastes for final dumping and disposal in the country is prohibited. Only units possessing environmentally sound technology, disposal facilities and complying with environmental laws are recommended to the DGFT for grant of a licence for importing of waste listed in Schedule -3, to the rules.