

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2205  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001  
POLLUTION IN MAHARASHTRA  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether Thermal Power Station and Western Coalfields in Chandrapur region of Maharashtra State are the main cause of growing pollution in the State;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the details of steps taken/proposed to contain growing pollution in the region; and
- (d) the impact of the action already taken for containing pollution during the last three years by the Western Coalfields and Thermal Power Plant/Cement Plant Authorities?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS [SHRI T.R. BAALU]

(a)&(b) Seven units of Chandrapur Thermal Power Station and 29 coal mines located in Chandrapur region in Maharashtra are the major source of pollution in the area.

(c)&(d) The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to comply with the environmental norms. Accordingly, the Maharashtra State Electricity Board has drawn detailed action plan including augmentation of Electrostatic Precipitators to control pollution from Thermal Power Plants. The pollution control measures taken by the Western Coalfields include the dust collection system, sprinkling of water and tree plantation on the operation sites. All the 3 operating cement plants in the area have installed pollution control devices and are complying with the prescribed standards. The State Government of Maharashtra has also formed a Petition Committee of State Assembly to look into the aspects of environmental pollution.