

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1063  
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002  
ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS  
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

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

- (a) whether the Government are of the view that there is need for better monitoring and a more effective enforcement of the environment related regulations in the energy sector;
- (b) if so, whether the norms prescribed for mitigation of the adverse environment effects of energy production are yet to be met;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether his ministry has prepared a report on financial performance of power sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS ( SHRI T. R. BAALU )

(a) to (d) Monitoring of control of pollution in Power Plants including enforcement of environment related regulations is ensured through the Regional Offices of the Ministry and the concerned State Pollution Control Boards. The prescribed norms include compliance with the emission and effluent standards by the thermal power plants, use of beneficiated coal containing ash not more than 34%, to augment / renovate existing Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) in a time bound manner and utilisation of fly ash. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions to the Thermal Power Plants for compliance of the notified pollution control norms.

( e)&(f) The Planning Commission publishes Annual Report on the working of State Electricity Boards (SEBs). As per this Report the gap between average cost of supply of electricity and average tariff has increased from a level of 50 p/kwh in 1996-97 to 110 p/kwh in 2001-02. The estimated commercial losses with subsidy of the SEBs have increased from Rs. 2,725 crores in 1992-93 to Rs. 24,837.22 crores in 2001-02 (Annual Plan).