

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7805
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2000
DUMPING OF WASTES IN INDIAN OCEAN
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some cases of dumping of wastes in the Indian Ocean have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the names of the countries found, involved therein along with the date on which such information was received: and
- (d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the government to protect the Ocean from pollution ?

Answer

MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT

(DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a), (b) & (c): No such instance/case regarding dumping of wastes in the Indian Ocean has been observed by the agencies of the Government who are involved in the monitoring of pollution in our Indian seas including Indian Ocean.

(d) A multi-institutional programme called Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction Systems (COMAPS) is being implemented by the Department of Ocean Development from 1991 onwards for monitoring the levels of various marine pollutants in the coastal and offshore waters of the country and to assess the health of our seas. Intensive monitoring of pollutants at 82 locations covering 25 parameters is being done from 1991 onwards by 11 Institutions identified by the government. The results obtained through these observations are periodically brought to the attention of the concerned State Pollution Control Boards for remedial action. The Central/State Pollution Control Boards have served notices to a few Municipalities for non-compliance of disposal standards as prescribed under Water Act, 1974 and Environment Protection Act, 1986. Similarly, some of the major industries located along the coastline which are not compliant with the prescribed disposal standards have been served with notices. Some of the State governments such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have established effluent treatment plants for treatment of homogenous wastes. The Indian Coast Guard which is mandated to preserve and protect the marine environment and prevent and control the marine pollution in the maritime zones of India which extends up to 200 NM from the coast, keeps this area under surveillance round the clock since 1991 onwards particularly with respect to the accidental oil spills by ships/vessels.