

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1737
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010
HEALTH HAZARDOUS CEMENT PLANTS
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cement plants have become health hazards for workers and need inmediate modernization;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being taken to make cement plants more environment friendly ;
- (c) whether the neighbouring countries are producing and exporting cement at much lesser prices than India; and
- (d) if so, the findings of comparing studies in this regard alongwith reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b): All large cement plants in India are compliant with emissions standards of the Central Pollution Control Board. Approximately 87% of the present cement capacity is based on modern plants of capacity ranging from 1 million tonnes per annum to more than 3.5 million tonnes per annum and are at par with world benchmarks in terms of environment and energy performance. The environmental and quality consciousness of the Indian cement industry is reflected in the fact that out of 143 plants, 67 plants have ISO 9000, 42 plants have environment management system as per ISO 14000 certification and 13 plants have OHSAS (Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Services) 18000 certification. The workers in cement plants are provided personal protection equipments to protect them from health hazards. Abandoned mines have been turned into water reservoirs and green belts have been developed to protect land degradation.

(c) & (d): The data is not maintained by this Department.