GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2511
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
DUMPING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether dumping of hazardous waste and dismantling of hazardous chemical loaded ships of foreign countries have come to notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Union government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, for proper management and handling of hazardous waste. As per these Rules, no import of hazardous wastes from any country to India for disposal is permitted. No information has been brought to the notice of the Ministry regarding dumping of such wastes.

Further, as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 14.10.2003 in W.P.(C) No.657/95, "Before a ship arrives at port (for breaking purpose) it should have proper consent from the concerned authority or the State Maritime Board, stating that it does not contain any hazardous waste or radioactive substances."