

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1753
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
MONITORING RADIOACTIVE WASTE
Ajmal Shri Badruddin;Sanjoy Shri Takam

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has received any requests from Universities, Institutions, Hospitals and other Departments for inspection or assistance for disposal of their radioactive wastes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to engage any agency to monitor radioactive bio-waste in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

- a) Yes sir, such requests are received by AERB periodically.
- b) From January 2009 to June 2010, AERB has issued around 400 authorizations to various universities, institutions, hospitals etc for safe disposal of radioactive wastes under the provisions of the Atomic Energy(Safe Disposal of Radioactive Wastes) Rules, 1987. The safe waste disposal methods are based on the physical and chemical form, activity content and half life, water solubility, combustibility etc of the waste. After careful review of the above characteristics AERB allows the safe disposal either at the site of installation itself or an authorized National waste disposal facility. Appropriate transport regulations prescribed by AERB are also enforced during the transport of the radioactive waste prior to its safe disposal.
- c) No Sir.
- d) As per the provisions of the Atomic Energy (Safe Disposal of Radioactive Wastes) Rules, 1987, the monitoring of radioactive wastes is to be carried out by the respective institutions, hospitals, universities etc. No separate agency is required to monitor radioactive bio-waste in the country.
- e) AERB carries out inspection of universities, institutions, hospitals etc using radioactive sources to verify compliance to the regulatory requirements pertaining to safe disposal of radioactive wastes.