

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4102

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010

VIOLATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RULES

Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash;Venugopal Shri K. C.

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

- (a) whether degradation of environment and violation of environmental norms in the country including tribal areas have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to enhance penalties for violation of environmental laws;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests administers several statutes, including the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 [E(P) Act] and rules framed thereunder, in place for the protection of the environment in the country. Assessment of environmental degradation, particularly relating to deterioration of water quality of rivers and ambient air quality in cities and towns, is being done by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in coordination with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). The violation of environmental norms, including in tribal areas is checked by verification of compliance by the polluting industries in the country.

During 2009-10, 248 inspections have been carried out by CPCB which has resulted in issue of 19 directions to the industries under Section 5 of E(P) Act and 31 directions to the SPCBs under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. In addition, various Guidelines and Action Plans have also been framed for the abatement of environmental pollution.

(c) & (d) The Central Government has undertaken the task of enhancement of penalties for violations under the E(P) Act related to contravention of the provisions of the Act and the rules, orders and directions made thereunder.

(e) Question does not arise.