

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4615  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
AMENDMENT IN NOISE POLLUTION NORMS  
Deora Shri Milind Murl

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra to amend the noise pollution rules allowing relaxation of silence zone norms for 15 days as in the case of loudspeaker and the relaxation criteria for notification of silence zones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the latest status of the proposal and the action taken in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to(c). Yes, Sir. The Central Government did receive a proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra to amend the noise pollution rules allowing relaxation of 'Silence Zone' norms for 15 days as in the case of loudspeaker and the relaxation criteria for notification of 'Silence Zones' in Mumbai.

It has been clarified to the State Government of Maharashtra that the terms 'Hospital' and 'Educational Institution' have been defined in the Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 3735 of 2005 (arising out of SLP (C) No. 2185/2003) in W.P. (C) No. 72 of 1998 : Forum, Prevention of Env. & Sound Pollution vs. Union of India & Anr. has issued orders on 28.10.2005 clarifying the position of relaxation in respect of 'Silence Zone'. Accordingly, it has been conveyed that relaxation as sought is not possible in 'Silence Zone'.