

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4728
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
RECYCLING OF SOLID WASTES
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pollution level in rivers has increased due to excessive mining activities and release of untreated toxic chemicals in the rivers;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to reconstitute the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards;
- (c) If so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether recycling of solid wastes is not being implemented strictly;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) the guidelines issued by the Government to Pollution Control Boards for effective enforcement of recycling of solid wastes in urban and rural areas; and
- (g) the action taken against Pollution Control Boards which are not following these guidelines?

Answer

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

(a) Over the years, pollution load on the rivers has increased due to urbanisation and industrialisation. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) monitor the compliance of discharge standards for effluents notified for industries, including mining industries.

(b) & (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) are autonomous bodies created under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. These boards are being strengthened by Central Government and State Governments to help them fulfil their mandate. The CPCB and the SPCBs are constituted for a period of three years in accordance with the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 by Central and State Governments respectively. These boards are reconstituted after expiry of their term.

(d) to (g) Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000 which inter-alia, stipulate various compliance criteria for managing municipal solid wastes. As per the provisions of the rules, the Municipal authority is responsible for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes. The deficiencies in the systems for collection, transportation, treatment and disposal pose a challenge to proper waste management. Some State Pollution Control Boards have issued notices/ directions to the local bodies to prepare time bound action plans for proper management of municipal solid wastes.