

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:23
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
AMENDMENTS IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT, 1986
Punia Shri P.L.

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

- (a) whether cases of violations of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 have been reported from various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year including the nature of violations, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Environment Protection Act, 1986 in order to overcome such violations; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c) & (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a), (b), (c) and (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.23 for reply on 10.11.2010 raised by Shri P.L. Punia regarding Amendments in Environment Protection Act, 1986.

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, emission and effluent standards are notified by the Ministry of Environment & Forests. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) operates an environmental surveillance scheme for industrial units belonging to highly polluting categories. Violations related to emission and effluent standards are monitored by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards/committees. Environmental clearances are also granted under a notification issued under the E(P) Act. Compliance of the conditions of environmental clearances is monitored by the MoEF.

As per the report of the CPCB, the number of cases of violation detected under its Environment Surveillance Scheme year-wise is as follows:

Year No. of directions issued to the units under
 Sections (5) of EPA for violation of Standards

No. of Directions No. of directions Total
for compliance for Closure

During 2007-08 21 16 37

During 2008-09 29 11 40

During 2009-10 10 8 18

During 2010-11 13 13 26
(till date)

Total 73 48 121

The State-wise details are at Annexure -I.

(c) & (d) CPCB initiates action under relevant provision of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for prevention of violation relating to

emission and effluent standards. Regulatory authorities have powers to issue directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Action is taken by MoEF in cases of reported violations of conditions stipulated with the Environmental Clearances. The environmental regulatory framework under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is revisited from time to time with a view to strengthen the compliance and enforcement mechanism.