

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3452

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

VIOLATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND POLLUTION NORMS

Panda Shri Prabodh;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints against soft drink companies such as Pepsi and Coca-cola etc. for violation of environmental and pollution norms in various states especially Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether Central Pollution Control Board or any other State Pollution Control Board has conducted any checks on these plants;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof, state-wise; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government against these companies?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) As reported by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), complaints/ references regarding pollution problem caused by soft drink industries have been received in the State of Kerala & Uttar Pradesh. The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has received the complaint against Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverage Pvt. Ltd. The sludge generated during the treatment of effluent in Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) in the factory contained Cadmium and other heavy metals. The concentration of Cadmium is reported to be 201.8 mg/kg against the prescribed standards of 50 mg/kg. The concentration of lead was found to be 319.0 mg/kg. As a matter of abundant precaution, the company was instructed by KSPCB, not to let the sludge out of the factory premises or use the sludge as a manure even within the premises. The Coca-Cola Beverages Ltd. is not functioning since 9.3.2004. There are no such complaints against Pepsico India Holdings Pvt . Ltd Palakkad. The Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) received the complaint against M/s Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd, Mehndigunj Raja Talab, Varanasi. The unit was inspected by officials of UPPCB and it the emission/ effluent being discharged were found as per the norms.

No such complaints received in the State of Haryana and Rajasthan.

(c) to (e) The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) are carrying out checks/ monitoring of the Soft drink plants. The Boards are empowered under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, to grant consents to these industries and ensuring compliance to the prescribed standards. The standards prescribed by SPCBs are required to be met by the Soft drink Plants. The CPCB has monitored the performance of E.T.P in the State of Kerala for a few Soft Drink Plants. Investigations of CPCB were mainly related to analysis of metals in the sludge. CPCB has requested, SPCBs/PCCs to ensure proper management of sludge and also for proper pollution control compliance.