

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:539
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
USE OF HAZARDOUS TECHNOLOGY
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether carbon capture and storage technologies are being implemented in oil exploration, power plant etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the technologies used are considered to be hazardous;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS) technology is not under implementation in oil exploration or power plants etc. in the country. However ONGC has approved a project of carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture and sequestration for Enhanced Oil Recovery at Hazira-Ankleshwar.

(b) & (c) There are apprehensions on leakage of CO₂ from deep underground geological storage as well as its safety and permanence. Scientists are conducting simulation studies to understand the complexities of storage and the possibility of leakage, permanence etc.

(d) India supports global efforts at R&D technologies aimed at reducing CO₂ emissions from coal-based industries. In this regard, India supports R&D into CCS technologies which, at this time, still remain unproven. We have reservations as to its safety, cost, permanence of CO₂ storage and consequences of leakages. However, India will continue to participate in Research and Development (R&D) activities and is willing to work on CCS technologies by deputing its scientists and engineers to sites in other countries where R&D into these technologies are being undertaken. We also support R&D into activities that seek to fix CO₂ convert it into productive uses.