

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2926  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011  
INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS  
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government has lifted its moratorium on new investment in eight industrial clusters in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified them critically polluted in a 2009 study;
- (d) if so, the detail thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Out of the 43 identified critically polluted industrial clusters, in which moratorium was imposed on consideration of projects / activities for environmental clearance in terms of the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, Ministry of Environment & Forests has lifted the moratorium in 13 industrial clusters, in two phases. These industrial clusters inter-alia include Vapi and Bhavnagar in Gujarat, Tarapur, Dombivalli and Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Coimbatore and Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu, Ludhiana and Mandi-Govindgarh in Punjab.

(c) & (d): Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), New Delhi had carried out an environmental assessment of industrial clusters based on Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) with the aim of identifying polluted industrial clusters and prioritizing planning needs for intervention to improve the quality of environment in these industrial clusters and the nation as a whole. The said assessment report had concluded that the industrial clusters / areas having aggregated CEPI scores of 70 and above should be considered as critically polluted.

(e): Based on the conclusion drawn in the said assessment report, Ministry of Environment & Forests vide Office Memorandum dated 13.1.2010 had imposed a temporary moratorium for a period of 8 months up to August, 2010 on consideration of developmental projects for environmental clearance in such identified critically polluted industrial clusters / areas. The moratorium was subsequently extended up to 31st March, 2011.