

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:678

ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009

INCINERATORS IN VIOLATION OF POLLUTION NORMS

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

(a) whether a large number of the incinerators have been set up in violation of environmental pollution norms as they are not equipped with the Air Pollution Control Devices (APCD);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Setting-up of incinerators is one of the options for treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste for health care facilities, hazardous industrial waste and industry specific waste such as pharmaceutical industry, pesticide sector, etc. In case of bio-medical waste, the incinerator has to comply with the standards notified under the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998. And, common hazardous waste incinerator and industry-specific incinerator are required to comply with their respective notified norms.

As per the available information, 166 bio-medical waste incinerators are operating without air pollution control devices (APCDs) in the country. The State-wise details are annexed.

The Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) regularly carry out inspection and stack monitoring of bio-medical waste incinerators and observations made during these inspections are communicated to the concerned agencies for implementation. SPCBs are taking action against the non-compliant health care establishments.

For incineration of hazardous industrial waste, 13 common hazardous waste incinerators have been set-up across the country. These incinerators are fitted with necessary air pollution control devices.