

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:67  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011  
WORKING CONDITIONS IN SAIL PLANTS  
Khair Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Steel plants in India are polluting the environment and employees health as well;
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken to control the pollution level and protect the environment;
- (c) the details of the environment and pollution control units that have been set up in SAIL plants and the level to which these have been successful in controlling the pollution levels;
- (d) whether the authorities have instructed the Environmental Management Division of the SAIL to procure environment friendly devices to check the rise of pollution level; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and latest position in this matter?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): Steel making consists of various processes which are associated with environmental implications. Keeping this in view, all steel plants of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have taken adequate measures to check/ abate environmental pollution by installing and effectively operating various air, water and noise monitoring and control equipment/facilities at different shops. This has resulted into compliance of all relevant environmental norms in the areas of ambient air quality, work zone emission, effluent discharge and noise quality.

Arrangements have been made at all plants for periodical check up of various aspects of employee's health at the Plant Medical Units/Occupational Health Centres. Utmost care is taken at all the plants to ensure that employees' health does not get affected due to environmental reasons.

(c) To check air pollution, SAIL has taken various measures such as regular maintenance of major facilities e.g. Coke Oven batteries, Sinter Plant etc. A range of pollution control equipment like Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs), Bag filters & Multi cyclones, Gas Cleaning Plants (GCPs), Dust Extraction/Dust Suppression systems etc. have been installed and are working effectively at all the SAIL plants.

As regards water pollution control, different shops of the plants are provided with waste water treatment facilities in the form of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) which consist of clarifiers, oil skimmers, settling tanks etc. Meticulous maintenance of these ETPs is carried out to ensure effective waste water treatment. Substantial quantity of the treated water is recycled back to the steel making processes to bring down water consumption.

To curb noise pollution, various measures have been taken by SAIL. In order to reduce the impact of noise, different installations like, bellow type tuyers and snort valve at Blast Furnaces, sound proof acoustics cabin and by-pass silencers at Power Plants, Oxygen Plant and Pump Houses and acoustic silencers at Exhausters/ID Fans are in operation. Apart from these, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like, ear plugs/ear muffs has been provided to the employees. Employees working in the noise prone zones are also placed in rotation so that they are not exposed to such area for more than the allowable period.

Various solid wastes generated during the iron and steel making process are well taken care of through recycling and reuse in the steel making processes itself. Some of the wastes having potential as basic raw material for other industries are commercially sold like Blast Furnace granulated slag is sold to cement industry, turning waste into wealth. Action taken above have resulted in complying with the stipulated environmental norms by all SAIL plants.

(d) The pollution control devices are procured and installed by the individual steel plants of SAIL and not by the Environment Management Division.

(e) Does not arise.