

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:375  
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011  
CHECK ON IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES  
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Singh Rajkumari Ratna

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

- (a) the existing policy of the Government regarding import of scrap including hazardous wastes in the country;
- (b) whether the instances of non-adherence to the said policy have been reported in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty persons in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to regulate the import of hazardous wastes in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 375 for answer on Monday, the 29th August, 2011 regarding "Check on Import of Hazardous Wastes" raised by Shri Kaushalendra Kumar and Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna Singh.

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, for proper management and handling of hazardous wastes. Import and export of hazardous wastes are regulated as per these rules.

Import of such wastes for dumping is not permitted. Import is permitted only for reuse or recycling or reprocessing with the permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and/or Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Permission for import is granted to units, which have environmentally sound recycling facility. All import consignments are required to be accompanied by a movement document and/or a test report from an accredited laboratory/ pre-shipment inspection certificate from a recognized agency. As per these Rules, the Customs authorities are required to draw random samples from consignments of hazardous wastes and issue directions for re-export of the consignment at the cost of importer in case of violation.

For effective implementation of these provisions related to import and export, a co-ordination committee including representatives from the Ministry of Finance (Department. of Revenue), the Ministry of Commerce and Industries (DGFT), the Ministry of Shipping (Department. of Ports), the Central Pollution Control Board and select State Pollution Control Boards has been constituted. This committee has been working to sensitize the Customs authorities regarding enforcement of these Rules in order to check illegal import of hazardous wastes into the country.