

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1996
ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012
POLLUTION DUE TO CEMENT FACTORIES
Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether several cement factories and Wind mills in the country including Gujarat are spreading pollution by emitting calcium, and other particles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/Union territory-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check the said pollution and ensure that these factories comply to the emission standards?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a)&(b). There are 196 large cement plants and 365 mini cement plants in the country, including Gujarat. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has reported that 17 large plants and 7 mini plants are not complying with the emission standards in respect of particulate matter. Out of a total of 14 large plants in Gujarat, 2 are not complying with the emission standards, as reported by CPCB. The particulate matter emitted by cement plants consists of calcium salts, silica, etc. There are no reports of wind mills emitting dust particles, including calcium.

The compliance status of large cement plants is annexed.

(c). The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) ensure the compliance of emission standards in an industry under the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Under Environmental Surveillance Squad (ESS) scheme, CPCB undertakes inspections of 17 categories of highly polluting industries, including cement plants to seek compliance of emission standards. In case of non-compliance, directions are issued by CPCB to concerned SPCB under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air Act, 1981 to ensure compliance of emission standards. Some times, directions are issued directly under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 by CPCB or by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.