

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4931

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012

REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST RULES

Bajirao Shri Patil Padamsinha ;Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao ;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Singh Kunwar Rewati  
Raman;Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any review of the legal mechanism relating to environment and forest rules in the cities and metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, the details of irregularities detected therein;
- (c) whether the said rules are being overlooked in the cities and metropolitan cities;
- (d) if so, whether any directives have been issued to ensure strict observance of the said rules; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c)to(e) For prevention and control of pollution as well as for restoration of environmental quality, the Government has promulgated the following Acts:

(i) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974

(ii) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981

(iii) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

Under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the subject specific rules have been notified which include: management of municipal solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, batteries, biomedical and hazardous wastes. These Acts and Rules are applicable to the entire country including cities and metropolitan cities. For cities and metropolitan cities, the rules relate to management of biomedical waste, municipal solid waste, plastic waste and domestic sewage. The main implementation authorities are municipalities which have been observed for not complying with the specifications and criteria laid down under the relevant rules.

It has been observed that the sewage generated in the cities and metropolitan cities is not treated. There is a huge gap between waste water generation and the capacities existing for its treatment. Same situation has been observed with respect to management of municipal solid waste. The State Urban Development Departments and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are responsible under the given statutes to ensure implementation of the provisions through concerned agencies.

To facilitate municipalities to undertake proper management of municipal waste (sewage and solid), the Ministry of Urban Development has instituted the centrally sponsored scheme like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) under which financial assistance is provided.

Further, for tackling industrial pollution in rivers by industries, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and SPCBs monitor compliance of effluent discharge stands by the industries. Out of 1395 industries identified in the country, 948 are operating satisfactorily with requisite treatment/disposal facilities, 269 have been closed and action is taken against other defaulting industries by CPCB and SPCBs under relevant provisions of (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.