

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:621

ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012

MEDICAL WASTES

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

- (a) whether cases of import of medical wastes including diagnostic and surgical equipment, imaging devices etc. particularly emanating from Europe and America have been reported;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has set up any regulatory mechanism to keep a control over the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to contain the import of such medical wastes from the developed countries; and
- (f) the extent to which success has been achieved in this regard?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 621 for answer on Monday, the 21st May, 2012 regarding "Medical Wastes" raised by Shri Bhisma Shanker Alias Kushal Tiwari and Shri Ram Sundar Das.

(a) to (f) As per information provided by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, four cases of import of medical wastes emanating from Europe and America and one case from Malaysia have been reported during the last three years and the current year. The details are annexed as Annexure-I.

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 of clinical and related wastes is prohibited under these Rules. Import of electrical and electronic assemblies destined for direct reuse is restricted and requires permission from MoEF.

For effective implementation of provisions related to import and export under these Rules, a co-ordination committee has been constituted by MoEF, which includes representatives from the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, the Ministry of Shipping, Central Pollution Control Board and certain select State Pollution Control Boards.