

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2497
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
USAGE OF COAL GAS
Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai

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

- (a) whether the official of Central/State Pollution Control Boards has received any complaints regarding the use of coal gas in ceramic industries in various States including Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to ban the usage of coal gas in industries; and
- (d) if not, the reason therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) : Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had received a complaint from ShriKunvarjibhai M. Bavaliya, MP (LokSabha) regarding use of coal gas in ceramic industries located in Morbi and Wankaner in Gujarat. The complaint was investigated by CPCB's team. The team had observed that there are 479 ceramic industries located in Morbi-Wankaner clusters. Out of 479 units in the clusters. 77 units had installed gasifier without obtaining consent from Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB). CPCB team inspected 14 units, of which 10 ceramic units had installed gasifier and one silicate industry was using tar as a fuel in violation of the consent conditions stipulated by GPCB. Considering the pollution potential, GPCB has issued direction under Section 33 (A) to one of the inspected units. The matter is under examination in CPCB for taking appropriate action against defaulting industries. ShriBavalia has also taken up the matter with the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests. Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted a Sub-committee comprising representatives of IIT, Kanpur and Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad to investigate the issues relating to use of coal gas in ceramic industries of Gujarat. Appropriate action would be taken on receipt of the report of this Sub-Committee.