

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3727
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012
POLLUTION BY SUGAR MILLS
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding air pollution/water pollution caused by sugar mills and other operational factories in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details of the erring mills/ factories along with the details of the pollution caused by them; and
- (c) the punitive action taken by the Government against such erring mills/ factories?

Answer

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

(a)to(c) As reported by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it has received two complaints relating to pollution caused by sugar mills of Maharashtra viz.

- (i) M/s Nira-Bhima Sugar Factory, Indapur Taluk, Pune - regarding percolation of effluent into drinking water well and
- (ii) M/s Vitthal Distillery and Sugar, Solapur District, Maharashtra - regarding disposal of effluent. Besides these, the CPCB has received 19 other complaints of the industries operating in the State of Maharashtra. The complaints received by CPCB were referred to the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board for necessary action.

In addition, the CPCB on random basis has inspected 11 sugar mills in Maharashtra and has issued one direction directly to the industry under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and directed Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board to take action against remaining ten erring mills under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.