

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:99
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
POLLUTION BY CEMENT FACTORIES
Bhaiya Shri Shivraj;Deka Shri Ramen

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

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board undertakes inspection of the highly polluting industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the smoke and dust emerging from coke and cement factories in the country particularly in Assam and Madhya Pradesh are adversely affecting the agriculture and the nearby living population;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to curb emission from these factories?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 99 DUE FOR REPLY ON 04.03.2013 RAISED BY SHRI SHIVRAJ BHAIYA AND SHRI RAMEN DEKA REGARDING 'POLLUTION BY CEMENT FACTORIES'.

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) undertakes inspections of the factories falling in the 17 category of highly polluting industries under its Environment Surveillance Programme. During 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 and till November 2012 in the current year, CPCB has inspected 935 factories and issued 308 directions to them under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for ensuring compliance of environment norms by the factories. Further, CPCB has also issued 153 directions to concerned 24 State Pollution Control board (SPCB) / Pollution Control Committee (PCC) under section 18 (i) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 or the Air

(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as the case may be, in the matter of non compliance of standards by factories.

(c) & (d) As reported by CPCB, information has not been received on adverse effects of smoke and dust emitted by Bee-hive coke oven and cement factories. However, there are 21 large cement plants and 9 mini cement plants in the country which are not complying with the emission standards, out of a total 183 large cement plants and 365 mini cement plants, respectively. In Assam, out of 2 large cement plants, one plant is not complying with the emission norms. In Madhya Pradesh, out of 12 large cement plants, 7 plants are not complying with the emission norms. Two mini cement plants in Madhya Pradesh and one mini cement plant in Assam, are also not complying with the prescribed emission norms. Air Pollution is also emitted from Bee-hive Coke Plants and these are SSI units. There is no Beehive coke plant in Madhya Pradesh. The Bee-hive coke ovens are mainly located in the State of Jharkhand (124 nos) and in Assam (32 nos). In Jharkhand, out of 124 units, 90 units are complying with the standards as reported by the Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board. As reported by Assam Pollution Control Board, 7 units of Bee-hive coke oven are complying with the emission norms in Assam. Notices have been issued to the rest of non complying units of Bee-hive coke oven by the Assam State Pollution Control Board.

(e) Several steps have been taken to curb emission from coke and cement factories, which inter-alia include:

- i. The emission standards have been notified for coke oven and cement factories;
- ii. The concerned State Pollution Control Board enforces the emission standards in factories through consent mechanism under the Air Act, 1981;
- iii. The Central Pollution Control Board also monitor the select factories falling under 17 category of highly polluting industries for enforcing the emission Standards under its environment surveillance programme;
- iv. In case of non-compliance, directions are issued to concerned SPCBs by the CPCB seeking compliance of environmental norms; and
- v. Directions are also issued to concerned industries by CPCB and concerned SPCB to seek compliance of emission norms.