

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1042  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013  
CHECK ON ECOLOGICAL BALANCES  
Pandey Saroj

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

- (a) whether the indiscriminate industrialisation is causing damage to the ecological balance of the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the areas most severely affected due to industrialization and the areas where environment is getting affected; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The indiscriminate industrialisation is adversely affecting the ecological balance in the country. The Government have taken adequate steps to check indiscriminate industrialization to prevent damage to the ecological balance. Industrial projects specified under category A and B are required to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and are subjected for scrutiny by the State and Central level Environmental Appraisal Committees. The industries are also required to seek consent-to-establish and consent-to-operate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 from the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). Further, based on the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI), the Central Pollution Control Board has identified 43 critically polluted Industrial Clusters and these clusters are having CEPI score more than 70 on a scale 100 and hence, considered to be Critically Polluted Areas (CPAs). Action plans have been prepared for these clusters for restoration of environmental quality. The action plans are implemented through State Government and Department. The details of State-wise distribution of CPAs and severely polluted industrial clusters are annexed.