

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3278  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013  
INSTALLATION OF POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES  
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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the sugar mills/industries are under an obligation to deploy pollution control equipment/devices for controlling/ containing pollutants;
- (b) if so, the details of the policies/guidelines issued in this regard by the authorities concerned;
- (c) the number of mills which have not complied with the prescribed norms/guidelines/ policies, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against such erring mills; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government to check pollution from sugar mills/ industries?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) It is obligatory on the part of Sugar Mills to set up Effluent Treatment Plant and Emission Control System to comply with the prescribed effluent discharge and emission standards as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986, as given at Annexure-I. In addition, for seeking voluntary participation of industry in pollution control, Sugar Industry agreed to comply with the following guidelines as per the Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) 2003.;

- (i) operating of Effluent Treatment Plant, at least one month before starting of cane crushing season to meet the prescribed standards;
- (ii) reduce waste generation to 100 liters per ton of cane crushed;
- (iii) to achieve zero discharge for land, surface water bodies;
- (iv) to provide 15 days storage capacity of treated effluent to take care of no demand for irrigation.
- (v) To install Electro-Static Precipitator (ESP)/bag filter/ high efficiency scrubber to comply with prescribed standards for particulate matter emission of <math>150\text{mg}/\text{Nm}^3</math>.

(c)&(d) As per the information provided by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), out of 603 Sugar Mills in the country, 331 have provided pollution control devices to comply with the prescribed standards. Of the remaining 272 units, 87 are closed and 185 are not meeting the pollution control norms. The Statewise status of compliance of Sugar Mills is given at Annexure-II. Besides regular monitoring of Sugar Mills carried out by the SPCBs, the CPCB under its Environment Surveillance Programme during 2009-13 undertook surprise inspections of 63 Sugar Mills. 23 Sugar Mills were found significantly violating the prescribed emission and effluent standards. Directions under Section 5 of the EPA, 1986 were issued to 6 Sugar Mills and directions under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 were issued to 17 Sugar Mills for implementation of pollution control measures. In case of remaining 40 industries, letters have been issued to make improvements to meet the compliance.

(e) The remedial measures taken by the Government to contain pollution from Sugar Mills include:

- (i) Notification of effluent and emission standards for sugar industry under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986,
- (ii) Mechanism of advance environmental clearance for establishment of new / expansion projects of sugar industry and monitoring of its clearance conditions.