

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4409  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013  
ILL EFFECTS OF FLY ASH  
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) whether the Government has mandated use of 25 per cent fly ash content for brick production within 50 kms radius of a coal or lignite based power plant;
- (b) if so, the details of areas in the periphery of coal/lignite based power plants where fly ash is being used for bricks production;
- (c) the reasons for reluctance of brick producers in using fly ash for brick production;
- (d) the corrective steps taken by the Government to encourage use of green and eco-friendly material in building construction; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the ill effects of fly ash in the periphery regions of coal based power plants?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has issued the notification No. S. O. 763 (E) dated 14.09.1999 and its amendment notification No. SO 2804 (E) dated 03.11.2009. As per the notification, every coal or lignite based thermal power plant is required to make available the pond ash and at least 20% of dry Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) fly ash free of charge to manufacturers of bricks, blocks, etc.

(c) The Government have no information with regard to reluctance of brick producers in using fly ash for brick production.

(d) & (e) As per the aforesaid notification, it is mandatory for every construction agency engaged in construction of buildings within a radius of hundred kilometers from a coal or lignite based thermal power plant to use only fly ash based products for construction, such as cement or concrete, fly ash bricks or tiles or clay fly ash bricks, etc. in every construction project.

The Government has initiated various steps to promote utilization of fly ash such as time-bound action plans for thermal power plants, provision of demonstration projects and R&D activities as also notification of emission standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.