GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2109
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
MONITORING OF AIR /WATER POLLUTION
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India will expand the ambit of mandatory monitoring of air and water pollution to as many as one lakh industries from 3000 in three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government, while making clearances for industry time bound and simple, is going to give emphasis on compliance of environmental rules; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)&(b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued directions under Section 18(1) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 / Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to all State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) on 5.2.2014 directing all industries under 17 categories of highly polluting industries, common effluent treatment plants (CETPs), common hazardous waste and bio-medical incinerators for installing online effluent / emission monitoring systems. Subsequently, modified directions were issued to them by CPCB on 2.3.2015 to submit bank guarantee of 100% of the cost of online monitoring systems (emission and effluent whichever is applicable) for ensuring timely installation of online monitoring systems by 30.06.2015 and such bank guarantee will be discharged if they install the system before June 30,2015. In case of noncompliance of the directions, consent to operate of the industry shall be withdrawn and bank guarantee shall be forfeited. At present, it is proposed to target only 3206 industries and 379 common facilities (CETPs, Common Bio-medical Waste Incinerators and Common Hazardous Waste Incinerators) in the country.

The CPCB has also issued directions under station 18 (1)(b) of the Water Act, 1974 to the Ganga basin States / Union Territories for directing all the industries discharging into river Ganga or its tributaries to install real time monitoring systems.

(c)&(d) The Environmental Clearance (EC) for industrial projects are granted by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change under Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) notification, 2006 with necessary environmental safeguards. Compliance of EC conditions by the industrial projects are monitored through the Ministry's Regional Offices.