

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3887
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014
POLLUTION BY DISTILLERIES
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the standards to be complied by distilleries for disposal of treated effluents are not being followed by several distilleries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of surprise inspections carried out by the Central and each of the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) for verification of compliance by distilleries to the prescribed pollution control norms during the last two years along with action taken report;
- (d) whether CPCB and State PCBs have given a fixed time-frame to distilleries for establishing facilities to achieve Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD);
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)to(c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has conducted random inspection of industries under its Environment Surveillance Squad (ESS) program. From 2012-13 till November,2014, the CPCB has inspected 117 distilleries so far as part of surprise inspections under ESS and National Ganga River Basin Authority program. Out of 117 distilleries, 47 non-compliant distilleries were issued directions/notices under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and three distilleries were issued directions under Section 18 (1)(b) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. During the inspection, three distilleries were not found in operation and remaining industries were issued letters for making improvement. The details of State-wise directions issued by the CPCB and State Pollution Control Board (SPCBs) to non-compliant distilleries during the last two years are given at Annexure.

(d)to(f) The State Pollution Control Boards are prescribing time frame to distilleries for achieving Zero Liquid Discharge in the consent issued by them. Also, as part of the Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection, existing molasses based distilleries were to achieve Zero Spent Wash Discharge in inland surface water courses by December, 2005, through any or combination of the following measures:

- i. Compost making with press mud/agricultural residues/municipal waste;
- ii. Treatment of spent wash through bio-methanation followed by two stage secondary treatment and dilution of the treated effluent with process water for irrigation as per norms;
- iii. Treatment of spent wash through bio-methanation following by secondary treatment (Biochemical Oxygen Demand < 2500 miligram per litre) for controlled discharge into seas at a point permitted by SPCB/CPCB in consultation with National Institute of Oceanography;
- iv. Concentration and Incineration.

As per the information received from State Boards, about 250 distilleries in the country are achieving Zero Spent Wash Discharge conditions by following any or combination of Bio-methanation/concentration by Reverse Osmosis or Multiple Effect Evaporation/bio-composting/incineration.