

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 5534
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019

Pollution from Toxic Coal Ash

5534. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the toxic coal ash as a major source of air pollution among the residents of Sharifpur Kalwara, Tehsil Tanda, Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether this problem is caused by the emissions from the NTPC Ash Dam in Tanda and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether his Ministry had conducted an environmental impact assessment of the said NTPC Ash Dam, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether his Ministry has issued any direction to allow the construction of the dam and to move the villages to a safer location; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for the delay in implementation of the said directions/measures and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a)&(b) NTPC Tanda Power Plant of 4x100 MW (Phase-I) located near Bahadurgarh Village, Tanda Taluk, Ambedkarnagar, Uttar Pradesh has been in operation since 1988. The annual ash generation from the power plant is 5.5 Lakh Metric Tonnes. The unutilized ash generated from the plant is disposed in the ash pond located 1 km away from the power plant in an area of approximately 350 acres. Approximately, 77% of the ash pond has been filled so far. Further, a second ash pond in an area of 300 acres adjacent to the existing ash pond is planned to cater to the Phase-II: 2x660 MW Power Project. The Village SharifpurKalwarais located within 1 km from the existing ash pond and is adjacent to the second ash pond for which land acquisition is under process. This Ministry has not received any representation regarding air pollution caused due to ash disposal.

Further, M/s NTPC Ltd. has taken various air pollution control measures to prevent air borne dust generated from ash pond such as installing the fixed water sprinklers, wet disposal of ash, developing grass plantation inside the ash pond and greenbelt around the ash pond.

- (c) The Environmental Impact Assessment studies have been conducted during the appraisal of Phase-II: 2x660 MW Tanda Power Project for grant of Environmental Clearance.
- (d) & (e) Based on the Environmental Management Plan submitted by M/s NTPC Ltd., the Environmental Clearance has been accorded to the Phase-II Power Project on 13.4.2011. About 540 acres of ash pond and associated facilities have been allowed as part of the Environmental Clearance and adequate environmental safeguards have been prescribed.
