

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 26.07.2010
ANSWERED ON
POLICY TO REDUCE NOISE POLLUTION .

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SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has a policy to reduce noise pollution in all cities and municipal areas where such noise reaches high levels;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this policy is not being implemented by respective State Governments;
- (c) what steps would be taken to advise State Governments to increase monitoring and vigilance to reduce noise pollution in crowded/populated areas;
- (d) the measures taken by Government during the last two years to activate this policy; and
- (e) the details of regulatory powers and bodies with Government to enforce such a policy?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) Yes, Sir. There is no separate Policy Statement on Noise, but it is a part of the National Environment Policy, 2006.

b) The Central Government has notified the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 to give effect to such a Policy. Under the said Noise Rules, 2000, the concerned State/UT Administration has designated an 'Authority' for maintaining the ambient noise standards in respective State/UT.

c) All the State Governments and UT Administration have been asked by the Central Government in February, 2010 to ensure the monitoring and compliance of the provisions of said Noise Rules, 2000.

d) The Noise Rules, 2000 were amended in January, 2010 in line with recent developments and latest pronouncement of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Central Government has also undertaken the task to establish a National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network (NANMN). The Central Pollution Control Board has been designated as a coordinating agency for the said network.

e) The designated Authority under the Noise Rules, 2000 is empowered to issue directions to prohibit and control noise pollution. Any person violating the Rules is also liable to be prosecuted under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.