

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3680
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2018

POLLUTION CAUSED BY COAL BASED POWER PLANTS

3680. SHRI K. K. RAGESH:

Will the Minister of **POWER**
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any measures are being taken to check the pollution caused by coal based thermal power plants; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER AND
NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b): Government has taken following measures to check the pollution caused by coal based thermal power plants:

- I. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2015 on 7th December 2015 related to Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM), SO_x, NO_x, Mercury emissions and water consumption limit for thermal power plants.

To comply with the new norms without disrupting power supply situation in the country, a phased implementation plan from the year 2018 to 2022 for installation of pollution control equipments (Flue Gas De-Sulphurization and upgradation of Electrostatic Precipitator) was submitted to MoEF&CC on 13.10.2017. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued directions to Thermal Power Plants to ensure compliance as per the plan prepared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

- II. Supercritical technology is being adopted by Thermal Power Plants to enhance the efficiency of coal fired power generation.
- III. To improve utilisation of fly ash, Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates on fly ash and its products has been reduced to 5%. A web portal for monitoring of fly ash generation and utilization data of Thermal Power Plants and a mobile based application titled "ASHTRACK" has been launched by the Government that will help to establish a link between fly ash users and power plants executives for obtaining fly ash for its use in various areas.
