GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1791
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2022

Management and utilisation of fly ash

1791. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

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

(a) action taken for monitoring of scientific management and utilisation of fly ash;
(b) amount of legacy fly ash in the stock and whether there is any roadmap for disposing legacy ash;
(c) number of ash dyke breach incidents in last three years, State-wise details thereof;
(d) preventive measures taken for ensuring safe storage of fly ash in ponds and ash dykes, the details thereof;
(e) action that has been taken against coal based power plants found non-compliant with 100 per cent fly ash utilisation; and
(f) amount of fly ash generated and details of its utilisation rate, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) published a Notification on utilization of ash from coal and lignite based thermal power plants vide S.O.5481(E) dated 31st December, 2021 for achieving 100% utilization of ash in prescribed eco-friendly purposes. Under the said notification, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or Pollution Control Committee (PCC) shall be the enforcing and monitoring authority for ensuring compliance of the provisions and shall monitor the uc tilisation of ash on quarterly basis. The concerned District Magistrate shall have concurrent jurisdiction for enforcement and monitoring of the provisions of this notification.

(b) As per the Annual Report prepared by Central Electricity Authority on 'Fly ash generation from coal and lignite based thermal power stations for the year 2020-21', the amount of legacy ash as on 31st March, 2021 is 1738.19 million tonnes. The notification S.O.5481(E) dated 31st December, 2021issued by MoEFCC mandates thermal power plants to progressively utilize legacy ash within ten years from the date of publication of this notification.

(c) Number of ash dyke breach incidents during last three years is 4, and state-wise details are as mentioned below:

State	Name of Thermal Power Plant	Period of incident
Madhya Pradesh	Mahan Thermal Power Plant, Essar Power (MP) Ltd.	August, 2019
	Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station, NTPC Ltd.	October, 2019
	Sasan Ultra Mega Power Plant, Reliance Power Ltd.	April, 2019
Jharkhand	Bokaro Thermal Power Station, Damodar Valley Corporation	September, 2019

(d) The notification S.O.5481(E) dated 31st December, 2021issued by MoEFCC mandates that the construction of ash ponds and ash dykes shall be in accordance with the Technical specifications and guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The guidelines lay down the procedure for annual certification of the ash pond or dyke on its safety, environmental pollution, available volume, mode of disposal, water consumption or conservation in disposal, ash water recycling and greenbelt, etc.

(e) Environmental Compensation has been imposed on thermal power plants who failed to achieve 100% fly ash utilization during years 2018-19 and 2019-20. Also, the notification S.O.5481(E) dated 31st December, 2021issued by MoEFCC prescribes the road map for achieving 100% utilization which has measures for levying of environmental compensation based on Polluter Pays Principle. It has mandated that non-compliant thermal power plants shall be liable to pay an environmental compensation of Rs.1000 per ton on unutilized ash during the end of financial year based on the annual reports submitted and if it is unable to utilize 100 per cent of ash in the third year of the three year cycle, it shall be liable to pay an environmental compensation of Rs. 1000 per ton on the unutilized quantity on which environmental compensation has not been imposed earlier.

(f) Details of State-wise fly ash generation and utilization during FY 2020-21 are furnished at **Annexure-1**.

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Annexure-1

State-wise status of Fly ash generation and utilization during the Year 2020-21

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of TPS	Installed Capacity (MW)	Fly Ash Generation (Million-tonne)	Fly Ash Utilization (Million-tonne)	Utilization rate (%)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	9	10585.00	9.6780	10.3680	107.13
2	ASSAM	1	750.00	0.5244	0.3290	62.73
3	BIHAR	6	6040.00	9.4215	8.0378	85.31
4	CHHATISGARH	31	25960.00	40.2526	28.2042	70.07
5	GUJARAT	13	16542.00	6.2029	7.3449	118.41
6	HARYANA	5	5330.00	3.4058	8.2794	243.10
7	JHARKHAND	7	4767.50	7.5468	9.1842	121.70
8	KARNATAKA	5	7760.00	2.4343	1.8272	75.06
9	MADHYA PRADESH	13	21200.00	25.8790	14.7990	57.19
10	MAHARASHTRA	20	23346.00	23.7703	27.4739	115.58
11	ODISHA	13	14285.00	29.6211	24.7430	83.53
12	PUNJAB	6	6140.00	4.0932	5.1469	125.74
13	RAJASTHAN	9	9045.00	8.0172	9.1355	113.95
14	TAMILNADU	18	14012.50	8.0281	11.7616	146.51
15	TELANGANA	9	6805.50	9.2185	8.4345	91.50
16	UTTAR PRADESH	20	23420.00	25.7889	23.4399	90.89
17	WEST BENGAL	17	14002.00	18.6768	16.4036	87.83
	TOTAL	202	209990.50	232.5595	214.9125	92.41