

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2617
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

REGULATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS IN INDUSTRIAL FARMING

2617 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying be pleased to state:

- (a) what steps Government is taking to regulate waste management in factory farms given the environmental hazards associated with industrial farming, such as groundwater contamination and air pollution, ;
- (b) whether there are specific measures to mitigate these environmental risks while also protecting animal welfare and human health, especially in regions with intensive livestock farming; and
- (c) whether there are regular inspections and monitoring mechanisms in place to track compliance with animal welfare standards in factory farms?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has framed guidelines for environmental management of Dairy Farms and Gaushala. Subsequent to the guidelines, the dairy farms and gaushalas have been categorized as orange and green category respectively by the CPCB under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. These establishments are required to obtain Consent to Establish (CTE) & Consent to Operate (CTO) from the concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC) under the Water (Prevention and Control) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention and Control Act) 1981 and they shall comply with the conditions stipulated therein.

Environmental Issues in Dairy Farms: It is estimated that approximately 5-10%, 5-10% and 80-90% Dairy Farms are located in urban, peri-urban & rural area, respectively. Major environmental issues of Dairy farms are related to disposal of dung and urinal wastewater. Poor handling and disposal of dung and wastewater causes water pollution and odour problems. Solid wastes produced from Dairy farms are bovine dung, feed residue, etc. which are organic and non-hazardous in nature but require proper handling and disposal. The guidelines framed by the CPCB has detailed specific measures for mitigating the environmental hazards coming out from the animal farms.

As per the information received from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), to address the environmental issues in Poultry Farms, CPCB has prepared a “Environmental Guidelines for Poultry Farms “in January 2022 and circulated to all the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for compliance of the guidelines. Guidelines address the environmental issues caused by poultry farms w.r.t Gaseous emission, Solid wastes management (Dead birds disposal, Poultry litter/manure etc), water management and measures to control flies etc. As per the said guidelines poultry farms handling above 5,000 birds at single location are required to obtain CTE and CTO (Green Category) under the Water (Prevention and Control) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention and Control Act) 1981 and shall comply with the conditions stipulated therein

(c) The Central Government has established the Registration of Cattle Premises Rules, 1978 and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Egg Laying Hens) Rules, 2023 to ensure the welfare of animals. The State Governments are required to implement these rules, as animal farms fall under their jurisdiction. Furthermore, the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees are tasked with taking action according to the guidelines for solid waste management, wastewater management, and other environmental issues related to animal farming.
