

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2412
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2018

Pollution from Brick Kilns

2412. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to reduce pollution arising out of brick kilns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the NITI Aayog's three year action agenda recommends for upgradation of Fixed Chimney Bull's Trench Kiln to cleaner technologies like Zig Zag kiln and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps to promote such kilns; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government to counter environmental pollution arising out of brick kilns?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has categorized Brickfields (excluding fly ash brick manufacturing using lime process) as an 'Orange' category industry and these industries are required to obtain Consent to Operate from the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) concerned every 10 years. This Ministry has also notified Emission Standards for Brick Kilns, which are to be complied by the industrial units.

(c) NITI Aayog's three year action agenda recommends that upgradation of Fixed Chimney Bull's Trench Kiln to cleaner technologies like Zig Zag kiln should be promoted through awareness of their higher efficiency and profitability and easy credit for upgradation.

(d) and (e) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the District Magistrates/ District Collectors of 22 districts of Delhi-NCR to, *inter alia*, ensure shifting of brick kilns to Zig Zag technology. Directions under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 have also been issued to all State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for prevention and control of air pollution in different type of brick kilns. Further, as per the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) notified by this Ministry, brick kilns in the National Capital Region (NCR) are to be closed down whenever the Air Quality Index is in the 'Severe' category.
