

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 145
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

Violation of Environmental Regulations by Manufacturing Industries

145. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many companies of the manufacturing industry in India are violating environmental regulations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in view of the aggravating smog problem, the Government plans to impose stricter punitive measures for violating environmental regulations;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to invite civic participation in discussions relating to the rising level of air pollution in India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) & (b) Yes, the Government is aware that there are some instances of Project Proponents (PPs) including manufacturing companies not complying with environmental conditions that are prescribed. Such non-compliance is monitored through a system of six monthly reports to be furnished by the PPs under the EIA Notification, 2006 and through a network of Regional Offices (ROs) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. ROs monitor the status of compliance with reference to Environment Clearance (EC) conditions. In addition to the Ministry, there is a network of Central and State Agencies that monitors the adherence to various Environmental Regulations. In case of major non-compliance, action is initiated by these Agencies under the applicable statutes.
- (c) The Government has taken the following actions for stricter regulation of the aggravating smog problems-
 - i. Directions have been given to initiate criminal prosecution against agencies who fail to take corrective actions.
 - ii. Power to file complaints to initiate criminal prosecution delegated to Scientists of the level of D and above.
- (d) & (e) The Government has taken the following initiatives for inviting civic participation-
 - i. Clean Air Campaigns – Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Delhi Government launched Clean Air for Delhi Campaign from 10th – 23rd Feb 2018. The campaign aimed at sensitizing ground-level functionaries and general public about their roles in making the air quality better in Delhi along with enforcement of various measures for improving air quality. Also, to check air

polluting activities pre and post Diwali, a special campaign called “Clean Air Campaign” was organized during November 01, 2018 to November 10, 2018. For the purpose, 52 teams had been constituted that included members from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Central Pollution Control Board and Government of Delhi and NCR towns (Noida, Gurugram, Greater Noida, Faridabad and Ghaziabad) to take on-spot ground actions to control air polluting activities and sensitizing public to ensure their effective participation. 2619 complaints lodged during Clean Air Campaign held in November 2018 and 454 challans were issued.

- ii. Public Outreach and Complaint Redressal- SAMEER app has been launched wherein air quality information is available to public along with provisions for registering complaints against air polluting activities. A dedicated media corner, twitter and Facebook accounts have been created for access to air quality related information and to provide a platform for lodging complaints.
