

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.657
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

Specific Programmes for Brick-Kilns

657. SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV:
DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made specific programmes for brick-kilns to switch to clean energy sources like PNG, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details of the number of brick-kilns that have switched to clean energy sources as per the directions of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) between 2020 and 2022 and if not, the reasons therefor, State/district-wise;
- (c) whether the Government provides any subsidies to the brick-kiln owners for switching to clean energy sources like PNG, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has revised Environmental Standards for Brick Kilns vide Notification No. GSR 143 (E) dated 22.02.2022 with following conditions :

- All new brick kilns shall be allowed only with zig-zag technology or vertical shaft or use of Piped Natural Gas as fuel in brick making.
- The existing brick kilns which are not following zig-zag technology or vertical shaft or use Piped Natural Gas as fuel in brick making shall be converted to zig-zag technology or vertical shaft or use Piped Natural Gas as fuel in brick making within a period of (a) one year in case of kilns located within ten kilometre radius of non-attainment cities as defined by Central Pollution Control Board; (b) two years for other areas. Further, in cases where Central Pollution Control Board/State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees has separately laid down timelines for conversion, such orders shall prevail.

Further, the Commission of Air Quality Management (CAQM) has issued the direction for the industrial activities in National Capital Region (NCR) region vide its letter dated 23.06.2022 specifying use of fuel as biomass or PNG latest by 30.09.2022 (for industries in area in NCR where PNG infrastructure/supplies are available) and by 31.12.2022 (for industries in areas in NCR where PNG infrastructure/supplies are not available), failing which such industries shall be closed down and not permitted to schedule their operations .

Government of India does not provide any subsidies to the Brick Kiln units for switching to energy sources like PNG, etc.
