

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1977
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2019

Pollution by Industrial Firms

1977. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance that several industrial firms are polluting the environment;
- (b) if so, the number of such polluting firms monitored in the past twenty years;
- (c) the action taken against such firms;
- (d) whether any multi-national companies have been included in the said list of Government and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of such multinational companies accused of high levels of pollution and the action taken against them?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) to (e) Monitoring and inspection of industrial units are carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) through surveillance squads and online systems. CPCB has conducted surprise inspection of industries in the 17 categories of highly polluting industries under the programme 'Environmental Surveillance Squad' (ESS) and directions were issued to non-complying units. During the period 2008-09 to 2015-16, a total of 1635 industries were inspected under this programme and with respect to non-compliance observed, 244 directions were issued under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and 156 directions under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Further, CPCB has issued directions to industries falling in the 17 categories of highly polluting industries to install Online Continuous Effluent/ Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) to track discharges of pollutants from these units. Since 2016-17, CPCB is carrying out inspection of these industries based on computer generated alerts from OCEMS. A total of 663 industries have been inspected till 21.11.2019 and 385 directions have been issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to non-complying industries and 1 direction to State Pollution Control Board under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
