

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4459
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2021

Skilled workforce for Chemical Industry

4459. SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that chemical industries usually neglect the availability of skilled workforce and operate with untrained employees, despite knowing the hazardous nature of toxic chemicals; and
- (b) if so, the preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government to address this major issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

- (a) & (b) Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change is administering the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 (MSIHC Rules, 1989) and Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act 1986. The rules were notified with the objective of preventing chemical accidents from industrial activities, mitigate associated impacts, and provide statutory backup to crisis management set up with four-tier system at Central, State, District and Local level. The MSIHC Rules, 1989 require the occupier to provide necessary information that is likely to cause major accidents and affect public during a major accidents at the site, which include submission of information on usage / storage manufacture of hazardous chemicals. To ensure safe operations of an industry dealing in hazardous chemicals, the occupiers are required to seek approval of sites, prepare on-site emergency plan and safety reports, undertaking safety audits and mock-drills etc. The occupier is required to comply with above mentioned

rule provisions with concerned authorities designated under Schedule-5 of the MSIHC Rules, 1989.

Under the rule 5(2) of the said rules, the occupier has to take adequate measures to provide to the persons working on the site with the information, training and equipment including antidotes necessary to ensure their safety.
