

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 222.
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021

Emission of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide

222. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:
SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that India is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic Sulphur dioxide from coal burning that contributes to air pollution;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to decrease the emission of the abovementioned harmful gas;
- (c) whether India has flue-gas desulphurization technology installed in the coal plants which would help in reduction of air pollution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) & (b): It is a fact that coal based thermal power plants are major source of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide (SO₂) which contributes to air pollution. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) vide its notification dated 07.12.2015 has stipulated norms for emission of SO₂ from Thermal Power Plants apart from other pollutants. There was no SO₂ emission norms for coal based Thermal Power Plants prior to this notification and regulated through stipulating the height of discharge/emittance through fixing height of chimney. The aforesaid notification dated 07.12.2015 was to be implemented within two years from the notification i.e. 07.12.2017. Subsequently in December 2017 after taking consideration various factors the timeline was extended on case to case basis from year 2018 to 2022. The implementation of control measures by thermal power plants were further affected by the disruptions caused by covid-19 pandemic. Having comprehensive analysis including demand-supply aspect, availability of resources, logistics and limitation on supplies of Pollution Control components, it was decided to grant extension of timeline for implementation of SO₂ emission norms by TPPs and accordingly, amendment to the notification dated 07.12.2017 was made on 31.03.2021. The rationale of new timelines was based on environment considerations.

(c) &(d):

Two of the commonly acceptable technology for flue-gas desulphurization of coal based thermal power plants (Wet scrubbing (WS) in alkaline media and Dry Sorbent Injection-DSI) are installed in India. As per latest status, 16 units are on wet FGD and 4 units on DSI technology installed for de-sulphurisation of flue gas from coal based thermal power plants. State wise list of these 20 units is enclosed at **Annexure I**.

Annexure I

State-wise list of wet scrubbing/DSI based FGD systems

Sr. No.	State	No. of Units	Name of TPP & unit Nos.	SO2 emission control technology
1	Gujarat	03	Adani power Mundra TPS(Unit-7,8,9)	Wet Scrubber
2	Haryana	02	Mahatma Gandhi TPS , CLP Jhajhar (Unit-1&2)	Wet Scrubber
3	Madhya Pradesh	01	Vindhyachal TPS, NTPC Ltd. (Unit-13)	Wet Scrubber
4	Maharashtra	08	JSW Ratnagiri TPS(Unit-1,2,3,4)	Wet Scrubber
			Adani Power Dahanu TPS(Unit-1&2)	
			Tata Power Trombey TPS(Unit 5&8)	
5	Tamilnadu	02	IL&FC TNPCL (Unit-1&2)	Wet Scrubber
6	Uttar Pradesh	04	NCTPS Dadri, NTPC Ltd. (Unit-1,2,3,4)	DSI
		20		
