

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3059
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022**

INSTALLATION OF SULPHUR REGULATOR TECHNOLOGY

3059. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWAR:

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether even after the deadline given by the Government to install the technology to prevent sulphur dioxide present in the black smoke emitted from the thermal power stations, many power companies are yet to install this technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the coal-fired power stations of the country are facing technical difficulties in installing sulphur regulator technology;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the guidelines issued by the Government for immediate installation of sulphur regulator technology in all the thermal power stations of the country?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (e): Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) are required to ensure compliance of the emission norms, as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and directions given by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) from time to time. As per the recent notification dated 31.03.2021 issued by MoEF&CC, the following timelines and penalty provisions have been provided for those power plants which do not comply after the timelines given in the notification:

Category and Description	Timelines for compliance	Environment Compensation (Rs. per unit electricity generated) for non-compliance beyond timelines		
		0-180 days	180-365 days	366 days & beyond
Category A - Within 10 km radius of NCR or cities having million plus Population as per 2011 census of India.	Upto 31.12.2022	0.10	0.15	0.20
Category B - Within 10 km radius of critically polluted areas or Non-Attainment cities as defined by CPCB.	Upto 31.12.2023	0.07	0.10	0.15
Category C-Other than those included in Category A and B.	Upto 31.12.2024	0.05	0.075	0.10

As per the above notification, the earliest timelines for compliance begins from 31.12.2022 for Category A plants.

Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) is one of the technologies chosen by the Thermal Power Plants for compliance to Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emission norms. As informed by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the percentage of works awarded for installation of FGD by Central, State and Private sector thermal generating units are 86.6%, 12.1% and 25.1% respectively.

Constraints faced by the Thermal Power Plants in implementation of Sulphur emission norms using FGD technology are as follows:

- i. Minimum time period required for FGD commissioning from the date of award is 36-42 months.**
- ii. Limited availability of vendors.**
- iii. Price escalation due to limited supply of components**
- iv. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on supply chain and manpower availability.**
