

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3702**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

**Pollution due to Pachpadra Refinery**

3702. SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the operations of units of proposed Rajasthan Pachpadra Refinery is likely to further aggravate the problem of pollution;
- (b) if so, whether it adversely affect the health of the common man;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to mitigate and prevent the impact of increasing pollution in the area around Pachpadra Refinery;
- (d) whether any guidelines have been issued to the companies for environment protection and improvement since the commencement of construction work of Pachpadra Refinery in 2018;
- (e) if so, the action taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the cases of violation of rules by the companies operating in Pachpadra Refinery and surrounding areas have come to notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof including number of such cases; and
- (g) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon so far?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

**(a) to (e):** In accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 the petroleum refineries are required to take environmental clearance (EC) from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), prior to their establishment. Ministry has granted Terms of Reference on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 along with public consultation to the project titled “Setting up a Grass Root Rajasthan Refinery cum Petrochemical complex Project (RRPC) at Pachpadra Tehsil, District Barmer (Rajasthan) by M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited”. Public Consultation has been conducted by the Rajasthan Pollution Control Board on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2014. Environmental clearance to the project was granted on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. The aforesaid Environmental Clearance was transferred from M/s Hindustan

Petroleum Corporation Limited to M/s. HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited on 16th June, 2023 following due procedure.

The measures taken by the Government to mitigate and prevent the impact of pollution from such projects are as below:

- i. The MoEFCC has notified effluent and emission standards for petroleum refineries.
- ii. All the petroleum refineries are mandated to have adequate Effluent Treatment System and Air Pollution Control System and to comply with the prescribed effluent and emission discharge standards. Action in the form of directions/ show cause notices are taken by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) / SPCBs / PCCs on industries that fail to comply with the notified effluent and emission discharge standards.
- iii. It is mandatory for all the petroleum refineries to operate only after issuance of Consent to Operate (CTO) from respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). These CTOs are issued by the respective SPCB after satisfying themselves about the commissioning of the pollution control devices in the unit.
- iv. CPCB has directed all 17 categories of high pollution potential industries including petroleum refineries to install Online Continuous Effluent / Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) with real time data connectivity to CPCB. CPCB conducts regular inspections of the industries based on exceedance alerts of OCEMS or if OCEMS becomes offline. Based on the observations of inspections, CPCB takes action on the defaulter industries as per extant rules.
- v. The Environmental Clearance issued by MoEFCC prior to establishment of the unit stipulates several mandatory conditions for the industry for strict compliance.

(f) and (g): As per available information, no violation of rules related to environment protection and pollution control by the unit has been reported.

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