

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4095
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025

Import of Hazardous Waste

4095. SHRI MALVINDER SINGH KANG:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that some traders are freely engaged in importing restricted/ banned hazardous wastes without valid permission;
- (b) if so, the list of importers of chemical wastes registered with the Government; and
- (c) the number of complaints received and action taken against such erring importers during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure safe storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous and other wastes in an environmentally sound manner.

The said Rules also allow import of the hazardous wastes listed in Part A of Schedule III for recycling, recovery, reuse and utilization including co-processing. Import of hazardous wastes is not permitted for disposal in the country. The import of hazardous wastes listed in Part A of Schedule III of the said Rules is allowed only to actual users with due permission from the MoEF&CC and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade license, as applicable.

As per the National Inventory on Generation and Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes for Financial Year 2023-24 prepared by CPCB, based on the annual inventory submitted by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), about 3.78 lakhs Metric Ton of hazardous wastes was imported by entities located in 12 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

Under Schedule VII of the said Rules, the concerned SPCBs/PCCs are entrusted with the duties of grant and renewal of Authorization, monitoring of compliance of various provisions of these rules and for taking action against the violation of these rules amongst other responsibilities. Import of hazardous waste without permission of the MoEF&CC in accordance with the said Rules, is treated as illegal, and under the Schedule VII of the said Rules, Ports and Customs Authority are entrusted with the responsibility of taking action against importer or exporter for violations under the Indian Ports Act, 1908 or Customs Act, 1962.
