

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:99  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003  
IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS WASTE  
RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA;SHYAMA SINGH

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have recently decided to prepare a national policy document on hazardous waste imports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether several companies are importing chemical wastes from affluent countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the plans formulated to check the import of such chemical wastes?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (E) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 99 TO ANSWERED ON 8.12.2003 REGARDING IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES BY SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH & RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA.

(a) & (b) The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules (HW Rules) notified in 1989 and further amended in 2000 and 2003, is the key legal instrument which deals comprehensively with the management of hazardous wastes in the country, including import of such wastes. Under these Rules, import of hazardous wastes for dumping or disposal purposes is not permitted. Import of certain hazardous wastes is allowed for recycling/reuse purposes. These wastes are specified under List A and List B of Schedule 3 of the HW Rules. The import of such wastes is being permitted in the country by the Government in accordance with Rules 12, 13 and 14 of the HW Rules and by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) through the EXIM Policy. Twenty-nine highly hazardous wastes are totally prohibited for import, even for recycling/re-use.

(c) to (e) No permissions/licenses have been granted by the MOEF or DGFT for import of hazardous chemical wastes during the past two years. Twenty two non-ferrous metal wastes, including wastes of metals such as brass, copper, zinc, nickel etc, specified under Schedule 4 of the HW Rules, can be imported by actual users registered with the Ministry of Environment And Forests / Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the Registration Scheme as units having environmentally sound management facilities to reprocess/re-refine such wastes. The Registration Scheme, being implemented by the CPCB, ensures that hazardous wastes are imported only by actual users and are reprocessed / recycled in an environmentally sound manner.