

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:755
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
IMPACT OF FLY ASH ON ENVIRONMENT
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) the total quantum of fly ash in tonnes being generated in the thermal power plants in the country every year;
- (b) whether the fly ash coming out of the thermal power plants in the country is causing environmental pollution;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to control the environmental pollution caused by fly ash; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) On an average about 110 million tonne of fly ash per year was generated during the last three years.
- (b) The fly ash, if left as such, occupies land area causing environmental problem including air pollution.
- (c) and (d) Steps taken by the Government to mitigate the environmental problems include:
 - A notification has been issued which inter alia stipulates utilisation of fly ash generated by thermal power plants in a time bound manner.
 - Emission standards for suspended particulate matter from thermal power plants have been notified.
 - Notification has been issued for use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants located in urban areas and beyond 1000 kilometre from pithead.
 - Environmental impact of assessment of thermal power plant is undertaken for environmental management including fly ash utilisation and use of cleaner technologies.
 - A charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection has been adopted as a road map for improved environmental practices for 17 categories of industries, which include thermal power plants.