

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2499**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

**Emission Norms for Coal-fired TPPs**

2499. SHRI M. SELVARAJ:

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

- (a) whether many coal based power plants around Delhi are not complying the emission norms and are likely contributing to the prevailing high pollution levels in the NCR as per the recent study by the Centre for Science and Environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has notified emission norms for coal-fired TPPs (Thermal Power Plants) in the year 2015, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken action/ propose to initiate action against these power plants for not abiding by the norms; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (e):

Ministry vide notification dated 07.12.2015 revised the emission norms for particulate matter (PM) and stipulated new norms for sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and mercury (Hg) emission for coal-based thermal power plants.

The implementation of the emission norms, got delayed due to various techno-economic constraints faced by thermal power plants and further affected by the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. Considering these constraints, the Central Government initially decided for phased implementation of norms with maximum timelines up to December 2022, and later vide notifications dated 31.03.2021 and 05.09.2022 granted further extension of time limit for implementation of new emission norms based on plants' location, which are as below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Location/Area</b>	<b>Timelines for compliance with parameters other than SO<sub>2</sub> emission</b>	<b>Timelines for compliance with SO<sub>2</sub> emission limit</b>
Category A	Within 10 km radius of National Capital Region (NCR) or cities having million plus population (as	Upto 31st December 2022	Upto 31st December 2024

	per 2011 census of India)		
Category B	Within 10 km radius of Critically Polluted Areas or Non-attainment cities (as defined by CPCB)	Upto 31st December 2023	Upto 31st December 2025
Category C	Other than those included in Category A and B	Upto 31st December 2024	Upto 31st December 2026

The timeline for Category A plants, including those located within 10 km radius of NCR, to comply with new emission norms for parameters other than SO<sub>2</sub> emission was December 31, 2022. There are four thermal power plants under Category A located within 10 km radius of NCR these thermal power plants have complied with the applicable emission limits i.e. for parameters other than SO<sub>2</sub> emission.

Besides, there are seven thermal power plants under Category C are located within 300 km radius of Delhi, for which the time limits to comply with the emission norms for parameters other than SO<sub>2</sub> and for SO<sub>2</sub> is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026 respectively.

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