

**Pollution and effects of the recycling of chemical and other Textile Waste**

975. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether imports of lead chemical wastes and other toxic wastes, besides waste paper intended for recycling, have phenomenally increased over the recent years since 1991-92;

(b) if so, the extent of such imports during each year; and

(c) what steps have been taken to minimise the pollution and effects of the recycling of such wastes on human health and hygiene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The available published information indicates that the imports of copper, lead and zinc wastes have decreased, while that of waste paper has increased. The figures of such imports from 1991-95 are as follows:

Year	Copper Waste (in tons)	Lead Waste (in tons)	Zinc Waste (in tons)	Paper Waste (in tons)
1991-92	13796.47	16389.40	27724.06	385000.00
1992-93	8265.09	8234.84	34189.45	476000.00
1993-94	8242.19	13575.47	33530.78	626000.00
1994-95	7476.00	13509.15	23145.28	not available

(c) Standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified for emissions and effluents from such industries. The operations in the major units in the organised sector are continuously monitored to ensure compliance with these standards. As regards the smaller units action has already been initiated to assess the situation, and closure orders were issued to some of the lead smelting units in the unorganised sector in Delhi and Calcutta. The Port and Customs authorities have also been instructed to handle such consignments as per the requirements of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989. The import of such items that were under OGL have been included in the negative list with a mandatory requirement of clearance under Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989.

**Non-Availability of Tankage facilities at Ports**

976. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate tankage facilities are not available in the country's major ports for the storage of kerosene;

(b) if so, the steps taken for construction of tanks for providing adequate storage facilities for kerosene; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Major Ports of the country do not own any tankage facility for storage of kerosene. Tankage facilities are created by Government Oil Companies (parallel) marketeers on the basis of existing and future needs.

However, adequate lands have been

allotted at almost all the Major Ports for augmentation of Tankage facility for POL products including kerosene.

**मोम (पैराफीन वैक्स) के वितरण और मूल्यों पर लगे प्रतिबंध को समाप्त करना**

977. श्री सोमपाल : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार मोम (पैराफीन वैक्स) के वितरण और मूल्यों पर लगे प्रतिबंध करने का विचार कर रही है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश में मोम का वर्ष-वार कितनी मात्रा में उत्पादन किया गया,

(घ) इस उत्पाद के मूल्यों, वर्तमान नियंत्रित मूल्यों और वितरण के संबंध में क्या व्यवस्था है, और

(ङ.) किस प्रकार की औद्योगिक अथवा अन्य इकाइयों को यह उत्पाद किस-किस आधार पर आबंटित किया जाता है ?

**पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) :** (क) और (ख) सरकारी नीति की समीक्षा एक सतत प्रक्रिया है तथा जब कभी आवश्यक समझा जाता है इसमें परिवर्तन किए जाते हैं।

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान पैराफिन मोम का स्वदेशी उत्पादन निम्नवत था :-

वर्ष	मात्रा
1992-93	47 टी एम टी
1993-94	45 टी एम टी
1994-95	41 टी एम टी

(घ) और (ङ.) पैराफिन मोम राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को पूर्ववर्ती आधार पर त्रैमासिक रूप से आबंटित किया जाता है जो संबंधित उद्योग निदेशालय के पास 30 जून, 1986 को अथवा उससे पहले पंजीकृत इकाई विशेष को इसकी आपूर्ति करते हैं। सरकार द्वारा प्रशासित मूल्य व्यवस्था के अधीन पैराफिन मोम के लिए भंडार स्थल

पर अधिकतम बिक्री मूल्य नियत किया जाता है। भंडार स्थल पर पैराफिन मोम के अधिकतम वर्तमान मूल्य (उत्पाद शुल्क को छोड़कर) निम्नवत है:-

	रू./एम.टी.
पैराफिन मोम (टाइप I)	15531.98
पैराफिन मोम (टाइप II)	15408.01
पैराफिन मोम (टाइप III)	12157.49

**Improving the Efficiency of Postal Services**

978. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken by Government to improve the efficiency of the postal department;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in that direction in the tribal and hilly regions in the country; and

(c) the State-wise details of the guidelines issued by the Government to improve the efficiency of the postal department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes. Sir. Efforts are made by the department continuously for improving the efficiency of postal services by monitoring the quality of services through visits, inspections and test checks on collection, transmission, segregation and delivery of articles according the prescribed norms. In addition, annual plan programmes, particularly for modernisation, are also being implemented to improve the efficiency of the services.

(b) In respect of hilly, tribal and other remote areas 662 post offices have so far been sanctioned during the 8th five Year Plan period. These post offices are opened as per liberalised norms to facilitate accelerated expansion of postal