

(c) The Ministry lays down a huge emphasis on monitoring & evaluation of its Schemes and Programmes. There is a rigorous scrutiny of the DPRs within the Ministry as well through line Ministries. The Ministry has also set up a technical cell to facilitate the process. The Ministry follows a strict regime of utilization certificates and field visits to monitor the implementation of its Schemes in the NE States.

Trade of hazardous waste

*119. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eminent environmentalists have urged the Central Government to take a fresh look at laws governing trade of hazardous waste and ban its import;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government is also aware that the present disposal systems of various hazardous wastes are not safe; and

(d) if so, the mechanism Government proposes to adopt in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Based on the experience gained in management of hazardous wastes, the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 were revisited and the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 were notified. Transboundary movements of hazardous wastes are regulated as per these rules. Import of hazardous wastes for disposal is not permitted. Import of waste is permitted only for reuse or recycling or reprocessing. Monitoring of units, recycling hazardous wastes is the responsibility of the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee concerned.

As per these Rules, all import consignments are required to be accompanied by a movement document and a test report from an accredited laboratory or a pre-shipment inspection certificate from a recognized agency. Further, this Ministry has constituted a Coordination Committee to oversee the implementation of the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008. It comprises of representatives from Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), Ministry of Commerce and Industries (DGFT), Ministry of Shipping, OPCB, selected State Pollution Control Boards and experts.