

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 114
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2018

Use of Lead in PVC Pipes

*114. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal has issued an order to the Government to notify and lay down standards for usage of lead in PVC pipes, if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government is intending to encourage the usage of alternative stabilizers, instead of lead based ones, in PVC pipes and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering a ban on import of lead based PVCs as well, in a manner similar to the usage of lead in petroleum products and paints and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study to confirm the ill effects of the presence of lead in drinking water and other such essentials; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken/being taken to monitor/ curb the usage of lead?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 114 due for reply on 09.02.2018 regarding 'Use of Lead in PVC Pipes' by SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH, Hon'ble Member of Lok Sabha

(a) to (c) Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), in its order dated 25.05.2017, directed the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change to, *inter alia*, notify and lay down standards for usage of lead in PVC pipes and also to draw up a programme for phasing out of lead as stabilizer in PVC pipes. A road map for drawing up a programme for phasing out of lead as stabilizer in PVC pipes has been prepared in consultation with relevant stakeholders, viz., Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, technical experts from Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET), Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE), PVC pipe manufacturers through the All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA), etc. which was submitted to the Hon'ble NGT.

(d) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has not carried out any such study with regard to ill-effects of lead from PVC pipes in drinking water.

(e) BIS which has the mandate to prescribe standards for quality of products has prescribed standards, including use of lead, for unplasticized PVC pipes for potable water supplies; chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) pipes for potable hot and cold water distribution supplies; positive list of constituents of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and its copolymers in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water, etc.
