

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.12.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**QUANTITY OF OZONE GAS .**

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Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to the Central Pollution Control Board, the quantity of ozone gas is increasing due to CNG operated vehicles;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the possibility of being affected with various diseases like skin cancer, asthma, heart disease, etc. increases due to increase in the quantity of ozone in the atmosphere;
- (c) whether we may get rid of this problem by making some scientific changes in engine technique in CNG operated vehicles; and
- (d) if so, whether Government would encourage scientists in this regard? A N S W E R

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring the ambient Ozone levels on continuous basis at three locations in Delhi namely Bahadurshah Zafar Marg (ITO intersection), Delhi College of Engineering (DCE) and Sirifort. The monitoring of ozone in other cities is yet to be started. The levels of Ozone observed in Delhi during 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as under:

Year	DCE	B.S.Z. Marg,	ITO	Sirifort
2007	71	31	46	
2008	45	40	31	
2009	50	44	36	

Upto October, 2009 All values are in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

As evident from the above data, there is no definite trend in Ozone levels. The co-relation of the observed concentration/ levels of Ozone with the emissions arising out of CNG operated vehicles has not been established.

(b)As per the World Health Organization Guidelines on Air Quality (2005), Ozone levels below  $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  have very limited health impact. However, Ozone levels beyond  $160 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  have potential to cause respiratory diseases like asthma, airway inflammation, etc.

(c)&(d)The CNG vehicles manufactured by Original Equipment Manufacture (OEMs) are equipped with catalytic converters and meet the current emission regulations. Further, there is no established linkage of Ozone levels with emissions of CNG vehicles. Therefore, the need for change in engine technology in CNG vehicles is not felt at this stage.