

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 247
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

Study on air pollution in India

*247. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has carried out any scientific studies on air pollution and to determine its effects on health during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and details of the measures that are intended to be taken; and
- (c) reasons for the standards of the Indian Pollution Index being less stringent as compared to the level of permissible pollutants index issued by the World Health Organisation?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

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

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 247 due for reply on 19.03.2018 regarding 'Study on air pollution in India' by SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN, Hon'ble Member of Parliament

(a) and (b) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has published, along with Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), a report titled 'India: Health of the Nation's States The India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative' on 14.11.2017. The report documents that the contribution of air pollution to disease burden remained high in India between 1990 and 2016. Outdoor air pollution caused 6.4% of India's total Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALY) in 2016, while household air pollution caused 4.8%. The study also states that DALY due to air pollution decreased by 23.6% from 1990 to 2016.

(c) The World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines for ambient air quality, are designed to provide reliable guidance to policy makers across the world, whereas the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) is the country-specific standards which have been formulated by this Ministry on the basis of health based studies and Indian geo-climatic condition.
