

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 249
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

Pollution control in the country

*249. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR:

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

- (a) whether as per a Green Peace India Report, 12 lakh people die every year in the country due to extreme pollution;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to reduce the pollution from PM -10 in the cities of Delhi, Allahabad, Bareilly, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and the State of Rajasthan;
- (c) whether Government is planning to improve/change the systems for pollution control; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 249 due for reply on 19.03.2018 regarding 'Pollution control in the country' by Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur, Hon'ble Member of Parliament

- (a) There is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of death/disease exclusively due to air pollution. However, air pollution could be one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases.
- (b) to (d) The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution which inter alia, include issuance of a comprehensive set of directions under section 18 (1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986 for implementation of action plan to mitigate air pollution in these cities to combat air pollution which include control and mitigation measures related to vehicular emissions, re-suspension of road dust and other fugitive emissions, bio-mass/municipal solid waste burning, industrial pollution, construction and demolition activities, and other general steps; notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; universalization of BS-IV by 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country; Promotion of cleaner production processes; formation of stringent norms for industrial emissions notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; collection of Environmental Protection Charge on more than 2000 CC diesel vehicles; putting in place Graded Response Action Plan for implementation under different Air Quality Index (AQI); online web based portal developed for quick data transfer and retrieval as "Environmental Water Quality Data Entry System (EWQDES), etc.

Also, Red Category industrial units of 17 types have been directed to install 24x7 real time online continuous emission/effluent monitoring system (OECMS). Also, for Delhi NCR, all Red Category industrial units have been directed to install OECMS by March 2018. CPCB is having a dashboard for 24X7 online monitoring of 17 types of Red Category industrial units. All Red Category industrial units in Delhi NCR will be linked to the dashboard.
