

(d) relative position of Delhi amongst India's and the World's polluted cities; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Central Pollution Control Board has carried out survey of ambient air quality at major traffic intersections, congested areas and industrial clusters in Delhi. According to this survey, the sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen concentrations are by and large well within the prescribed standards but are showing an increasing trend. The levels of suspended particulate matter are mostly at times, beyond the prescribed limits. This is due to industrial and vehicular emissions besides natural dusty conditions.

(c) According to the Delhi Pollution Control Committee, 1280 metric tons of pollutants are emitted by vehicles every day in Delhi.

(d) According to a World Health Organisation (WHO) report 1992, Delhi ranks 14th in respect of sulphur dioxide, 6th in respect of suspended particulate matter (spm) and 10th in respect of oxides of nitrogen among the most polluted cities in the World. Among the most polluted cities of India, it ranks second with respect to sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter (spm) and first with respect to oxides of nitrogen.

(e) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to control environmental pollution in Delhi. These include :

- (i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed.
- (ii) A notification stipulating the ambient air quality standards has been issued.
- (iii) Industries have been directed to instal necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (iv) Unleaded petrol has been introduced with effect from 1st April, 1995 to be used with cars fitted with catalytic converters.
- (v) A High Powered Committee (HPC) was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India to draw up a comprehensive Action Plan on Environment and Pollution Control in Delhi which submitted its report on August 3, 1994. The Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) Delhi has accepted, in principle, the recommendations of the HPC report and an Implementation Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of NCT Delhi for implementing its recommendations.

(vi) Standards for emissions from vehicles both at the manufacturing stage and at the in-use stage have been notified under Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. A programme for effective compliance with these standards has been initiated. Stricter standards for vehicles at the manufacturing stage to come into effect from 1 April, 1996, have been notified.

(vii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(viii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(ix) Public awareness campaigns are being carried out from time to time to educate people about statutory punitive provisions and the health hazards related to vehicular pollution.

[English]

Gauge Conversion and Electrification

5108. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided that all the Meter Gauge Railway Lines in Andhra Pradesh be converted into the Broad Gauge;

(b) if so, whether programme of electrification of Railway Lines in Andhra Pradesh is also to be taken into consideration during 1995-96; and

(c) if so, the time by which the work on these projects is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir. Only the following lines in Andhra Pradesh have been identified for gauge conversion in the first phase of the Action Plan :

- (i) Guntur-Guntakal and Guntakal-Kalluru (458 kms.)
- (ii) Guntakal-Hospet (115 kms.)
- (iii) Bolaram-Secunderabad-Dronachallam (298 kms.)
- (iv) Mudkhed-Secunderabad (249 kms.)
- (v) Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati (104 kms.) (Partly in Andhra Pradesh)
- (vi) Mudkhed-Adilabad (162 kms.)

(b) and (c). As the electrification projects are capital intensive, only high traffic density broad gauge routes which qualify, based on the rate of return on investment are taken up for electrification at present.

Gauge conversion of Bolaram-Secunderabad-Dronachallam, Guntur-Guntakal, Tirupati-Katpadi and Mudkhed-Adilabad sections is already in progress. Gauge conversion of remaining sections would be taken up in the coming years.

Electrification of lines as get converted into broad gauge and qualify these norms will be considered for electrification at appropriate time.

Western Ghat Project

5109. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) assisted Rs. 84.2 crores western Ghat Project is under implementation in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the districts covered under the project;

(c) the amount so far spent on this project;

(d) the land covered under this project;

(e) whether ODA team has visited Karnataka to review the progress;

(f) if so, when and the reaction of the team;

(g) whether there is any proposal to cover more districts in Karnataka under this Scheme; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d). The Overseas Development Administration assisted Western Ghats Forestry Project is under implementation in the Uttar Kanara district of Karnataka since 1992-93 with a total cost of Rs. 84.20 crores. An amount of Rs. 16.98 crore has been spent and an area of 10,397 ha. has been covered upto September, 1994.

(e) and (f). An ODA team visited Karnataka and carried out the mid-term review of the project in February 1995. The team submitted an aide-memoire noting that the project has made good progress in many areas like JFM training, establishment of village forest committees and microplanning. The team stressed the need to develop effective management systems, operational plan and monitoring and evaluation system.

(g) and (h). It is proposed to extend the project to the Shimoga forest circle covering part of the two districts of Shimoga and Chikamagalur.

Mid-Day Meals in Kendriya Vidyalayas

5110. DR. SUDHIR RAY :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to launch Mid-day Meal Scheme in Schools throughout the country especially in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme indicating the States where it is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether Government have constituted any Committee to chalk out ways and means for implementing the scheme;

(d) if so, the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference; and

(e) the estimated expenditure involved in launching the scheme and its apportionment between the Centre and the States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (e). The Government has decided to participate in the phased expansion of the mid-day meals schemes being implemented by the State Governments. A Committee headed by the Union Education Secretary has been constituted to work out modalities. A copy of the notification constituting the Committee is enclosed as Statement.

STATEMENT

No. F. 17-14/95 PN.I, Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) New Delhi, the 19th april, 1995

ORDER

Subject : Constitution of a Committee on Mid-day Meals.

In pursuance of the Finance Minister's announcement in his 1995-96 Budget speech of setting up of a Committee to work out the modalities of the Central Government's participation in a phased expansion of the Mid-day Means Schemes being operated by some State Governments for school children, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development has constituted a Committee to work out the modalities of phased implementation of a school nutrition programme.

2. The Committee shall consist of the following :

(i) Union Education Secretary	Chairman
(ii) Secretary, Department of Expenditure	Member
(iii) Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development	Member
(iv) Secretary, Department of Rural Development	Member
(v) Secretary, Department of Civil Supplies	Member
(vi) Representative of Planning Commission	Member
(vii) Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad	Member