

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:212

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006

EFFECTS OF POLLUTION

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Pathak Shri Brajesh

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in regard to ill effects of rising pollution on human life due to industrial/chemical plants and mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof
- (c) the percentage of pollution spread by heavy industries/chemical plants;
- (d) the effective measures taken so far by the Government to control increasing pollution in the country;
- (e) the percentage of shortfall in pollution noticed through the present measures; and
- (f) the measures initiated/proposed to meet the inadequacies?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 212 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2006 REGARDING EFFECTS OF POLLUTION BY SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR & SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK.

(a)&(b) Studies on burden of morbidity have been carried out in some urban and industrial areas by various institutions. The salient findings included higher incidence of respiratory diseases besides some other ailments amongst the population living in polluted/urban areas in comparison to the rural areas/control group. Whether such higher incidence of morbidity is due to industrial/chemical/mining activity, or due to other sources of health risk in urban areas, cannot be definitely established.

(c) The percentage of pollution load contributed by various industries is as under:-

Air polluting industries in terms of particulate matter load:

Thermal Power Plants	- 80%
Sugar	- 10%
Cement	- 07%
Others	- 03%

Air polluting industries in terms of sulphur dioxide emissions:

Thermal Power Plants	- 89%
Steel Plants	- 05%
Oil Refineries	- 03%
Sulphuric Acid Plants	- 02%
Others	- 01%

Water pollution load contributed by various industries in terms of bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD):

Distilleries	- 28%
Textiles	- 26%
Engineering	- 15%
Paper and Pulp	- 09%
Others	- 22%

(d) The measures taken to control pollution include the following:-

Comprehensive policy for environment and abatement of pollution;

- # Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 is in force governing environmental appraisal of developmental projects;
- # Out of 2672 highly polluting industries identified under 17 categories, 1963 have provided necessary pollution control facilities, 329 are closed and action has been taken against 380 defaulters;
- # Critically polluted areas have been identified and action plans have been prepared for abatement of pollution;
- # A procedure for mandatory public hearing has been introduced w.e.f. 10.4.1997 as a pre-requisite for consideration of projects for environmental clearance;
- # Promotion of cleaner technologies;
- # Installation of common effluent treatment plants (CETPs);
- (e) As a result of various measures taken, the industrial air pollution load in terms of particulate matter has reduced from 3 lakh tonnes per day to 5400 tonnes per day and industrial water pollution load in terms of bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) has come down from 9500 tonnes per day to 1700 tonnes per day.
- (f) The measures initiated/envisaged to control pollution include the following:-
 - # Strengthening of the net-work of air & water quality monitoring stations;
 - # Assessment of pollution load & source apportionment studies;
 - # Implementation of Charter on the Corporate Responsibility on Environmental Protection (CREP) for specified industries.