

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1604

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008

ADVERSE AFFECTS OF POLLUTANTS

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

- (a) the adverse affects of various pollutants including oxides of Nitrogen in the environment on the health of human beings;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to check the adverse affects of these pollutants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Air pollutants including oxides of Nitrogen may have health impacts depending upon the length of exposure, concentration of pollutants and other factors. However, there is no conclusive data to establish co-relationship between the air pollution and the incidences of health ailments.

(b) to (d) Various steps taken by the Government to control air pollution include the following:

Stricter emission norms for automobiles and supply of improved fuel quality by introduction of unleaded petrol and reduction of Benzene in the petrol.

Promotion of cleaner fuels like Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)/Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)

Improvement in public transport system like introduction of Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS).

Introduction of clean technologies in industries and mass awareness programmes.

Stricter emission norms for polluting industries.

Strengthening of air monitoring networks.

Implementation of action plans for the critically polluted areas.

Prescribing the environmental safeguards and condition for specified categories of developmental activities under Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006.