

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2531
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010
POLLUTION IN HOSPITALS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the children in Metro cities have more than normal lead level in their blood;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the dangerous paints with high lead level is still being used in schools, playgrounds, buses and other areas accessed by children;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether some foreign countries have proposed to help India in checking the pollution caused by lead and mercury in the air of hospitals in the country;and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b) A Screening programme carried out by an NGO in Bangalore, Kolkata, Chennai, Vellore, Hyderabad, Delhi & Mumbai between 1997-1999 concluded that over 50% of children below the age of 12 years living in urban areas have un-acceptable blood lead levels of 10 ug/dl or more According to a study by Indian Council of Medical Research's National Institute of Occupational Health between 1997-2000, there has been a dramatic fall in the blood lead level after the introduction of unleaded petrol

(c) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.