

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1644

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010

MOST POLLUTED CITIES

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any survey about the most polluted cities in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the cities as per their ranking and their position in the list of the polluted cities of the world; and
- (c) the existing level of pollution in each of these cities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards are monitoring the ambient air quality across the country under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme. Under this programme, ambient air quality is being monitored at 424 stations covering 175 cities in respect of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) and Particulate Matter of (size less than 10 micro metre (PM₁₀)).

The air quality data for the year 2009 indicates that the levels of SO₂ have remained the National Ambient Air Quality Standards in all the cities. However, the levels of NO₂ were exceeding the norms in Howrah, Asansol, Kolkata, Delhi, Jamshedpur, Raipur, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Jharia. During the same period, 91 cities/ towns were found to be exceeding the standards in respect of PM₁₀. The details may be referred at Annexure-I.

As regards the rank of the list of the polluted cities of the World, there is no standard methodology to rank the most polluted cities of the World. However, various organizations have come out with their ranking of most polluted cities of the World based on different parameters.

(C) The existing levels of pollution in 35 metro cities are provided at Annexure-II.