GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:532
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
POLLUTION IN THE CITIES OF GUJARAT
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cities in Gujarat are facing the problem of increasing level of pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof, city-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to solve the problem of pollution in these cities;and

(d) the success achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The ambient air quality is regularly being monitored in 07 cities of Gujarat, namely, Ahmedabad, Ankleshwar, Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Vapi and Jamnagar by the Gujarat Pollution Control Board under National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP).Ambient air quality data for residential area for the last 3 years has revealed that air quality monitored at all the locations is within the ambient air quality standards with respect to Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx). However, the levels of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) are exceeding the standards in all the 07 cities. A fluctuating trend is observed with respect to the RSPM levels in the last 03 years.

(c) & (d) The Government has taken various measures to control air pollution in Gujarat which interalia includes implementation of notified emission standards for industries & generator sets, new & in-use vehicles and fuel quality in accordance with the Road Map of the Auto Fuel Policy.

Introduction of cleaner fuel in public transport and strengthening of mass transportation is underway. Action plan for air quality management in Ahmedabad and specific action plans for identified critically polluted areas of Gujarat are being implemented.

Taking into account the increasing urbanization and rapid expansion in transportation sector, there has been some measure of success as a result of the actions taken by the Government.