

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:241

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011

POLLUTION IN CITIES

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether as per a survey conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, the pollution level in 88 cities, is on the rise;
- (b) if so, the major findings of the survey;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new pollution policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps/remedial measures taken by the Government to contain high levels of pollutants in these cities?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 241 DUE FOR REPLY ON 14.03.2011" POLLUTION IN CITIES" BY SHRI WAKCHAURE BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM AND SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT.

(a) and (b): Under the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) system of environmental assessment adopted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), 88 polluted Industrial Clusters in 20 States across the country were assessed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and other 15 institutions. The survey was primarily conducted for assessing industrial pollution load and not relating specifically to cities.

CEPI has been assigned to the industrial clusters on the scale of 0 to 100. Based on the developed CEPI, 43 industrial clusters in 16 states having CEPI score of 70 or above are identified as Critically Polluted Industrial Clusters and remaining with CEPI < 70 are severely polluted. The list of critically polluted industrial clusters with CEPI score is provided at Annexure-I.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has issued a moratorium on 13.1.2010 for 43 critically polluted industrial clusters restricting environmental clearances for new polluting industries/ projects till 08.08.2010 which was further extended till 31.10.2010.

For restoration of environmental quality in these polluted clusters, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) have prepared Action Plans. These Action Plans have been reviewed by CPCB. Based on the approval of action plans and initiation of implementation measures the moratorium has been lifted by the Ministry in 13 industrial clusters/areas. The list is provided at Annexure-II. For the remaining critically polluted industrial clusters the moratorium is currently effective till 31.03.2011.