

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2621

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011

DISEASES CAUSED BY AIR POLLUTION

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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a recent study which states that heart attacks, asthma, respiratory diseases and cancer caused by air pollution kill at least 3,000 Delhites every year and those who live 500 metres of the two Ring Roads are the worst affected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has any data for other Metropolitan Cities in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the basis of findings of the study?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)to(d): Government of India is aware of the Epidemiological study carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with Chitranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI), Kolkata on the effect of air pollution. The findings of the study indicate that air pollution may cause respiratory diseases, haematological diseases, genotoxicity and neurobehavioral changes.

CPCB has carried out source apportionment studies in 6 cities namely Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Kanpur, Mumbai and Pune. As per the findings of the report the quantum of various pollutants like Particulate Matter (PM10),

Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) are given in the table below:

Name of City	Particulate Matter (TPD)	Sulphur Dioxide (TPD)	Oxides of Nitrogen (TPD)
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Bangalore	54.4	14.5	217.4
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Chennai	11.0	1.34	12.2
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Delhi	147.0	268.0	460.0
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Kanpur	9.4	4.2	22.5
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Mumbai	73.5	154.7	215.6
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(e): The remedial measures to prevent air pollution are as under:

Bharat Stage-IV emission norms have been implemented in 13 mega cities including NCR for new 4-wheelers in 2010.

Mass emission standards (Bharat Stage III) have been notified for two, three wheelers and diesel driven agricultural tractors from April 1, 2010 throughout country.

Stringent Emission Standards have been implemented to regulate emissions from in-use vehicles from October 2004.

Supply of improved diesel and gasoline.

Availability of Pre-mix 2T in petrol at all petrol outlets.

Operating CNG mode as fuel in all commercial vehicles in Delhi.

Introduction of Delhi metro line to promote use of mass public transport system.

Central and State Pollution Control Boards are implementing the Air Act 1981 to restore Air quality.

A mutually time targeted programme is implemented under Corporate Responsibility on Environment Protection (CREP).

Surprise inspections made for 17 categories of highly polluted industries.

City specific action plans have been suggested for restoration of environmental quality in 6 cities.

Sector specific recommendations like fuel quality improvement, stringent vehicular emission standards, minimizing dust pollution from construction activities, re-suspension of road dust, etc.

Constitution of Working Groups by respective Ministries for implementation of recommendations made in the source apportionment studies.

Further, majority of cancers and cardiovascular diseases can be prevented and treated if diagnosed at an early stage. Keeping in view the common risk factors for these diseases, Government of India has approved a National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). The programme is currently being implemented in 30 selected districts of 21 States during the year 2010-11.