

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1063

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011

POLLUTION IN ENVIRONMENT

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government to co-relate excessive deaths occurring in major cities in the country on account of environmental pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the percentage of the total annual increase in the environmental pollution during the last three years in the major cities;
- (c) the strategy being formulated by the Government to gear up measures for controlling environmental pollution; and
- (d) the progress made by the Government so far in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (d) According to some epidemiological studies, health effects such as manifestation of respiratory and cardiovascular ailments etc. could be associated with air pollution. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Committees are monitoring ambient air quality at 501 locations in 208 cities. Ambient air quality data of 35 metro cities for last three years i.e. 2008 to 2010 indicates that in most of the cities the Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter has exceeded the standards notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Steps taken by the Government to control environmental pollution include formulation of a comprehensive policy for abatement of pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, management of municipal, hazardous & bio-medical wastes, promotion of cleaner technologies, strengthening the network of air quality monitoring stations, assessment of pollution load, source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities & critically polluted areas, public awareness etc.