

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6210

ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012

DEATHS DUE TO POLLUTION

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

- (a) whether the Centre for Science and Environment in its report has made certain observation about the status and impact of air pollution in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons died due to pollution during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the reasons for increase in air pollution in the country; and
- (e) the details of steps the Government has taken to control pollution during the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a)to(c) : The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has published a report titled 'Mobility Crisis Agenda for action 2010'. The report includes the results of study conducted by World Health Organisation (WHO), Health Effect Institute's PAPA project, World Bank, etc. on air pollution, health, cancer and mortality studies in India. These results are indicative rather than conclusive. Besides, CSE has analysed the ambient air quality data for the period 2002 to 2008, collated and compiled by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). No study on pollution related mortality has been conducted by CSE or CPCB in the country. USA based Health Effect Institute has drawn its estimates without a study on pollution related mortality.

(d) : Apart from shipping, aviation and natural sources, the main reasons of air pollution in the country are vehicular exhaust emissions, resuspension of roadside dust, industries, thermal power plants, operation of gensets, construction activities, household activities, agricultural practices, etc. Rising population coupled with rapid urbanisation and economic growth results in increase in air pollution in the country.

(e) : The steps taken to control air pollution during last three years at the national level, inter alia, include notifying revised ambient air quality standards (November, 2009); identifying 43 critically polluted areas (December, 2009) after a comprehensive study; notifying strict emission standards for 14 categories of industries, such as integrated iron & steel plant, electroplating industry, grain processing industry, plaster of paris industry, incinerators, etc.; increasing the use of gaseous fuel for public transport; strengthening public transport and metro rail in select cities; low floor buses as intra city public transport in some cities; sale & registration of BS-IV compliant passenger cars in select cities; sale and supply of BS IV/III compliant fuel as per Auto Fuel Policy, etc.