

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1585

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012

DISEASES DUE TO POLLUTION

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

- (a) whether vehicular pollution is the main cause of increasing pollution in Delhi and other metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the various diseases caused by air pollution;
- (d) if so, the estimated percentage of people getting ill due to air pollution; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to check the pollution and prevention of diseases caused thereby?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Vehicular pollution is one of the sources of air pollution in Delhi and other metropolitan cities. According to some epidemiological studies, health effects such as manifestation of respiratory and cardiovascular ailments etc. could be associated with air pollution. No statistical data is available regarding the number of persons suffering from respiratory disorders caused due to pollution in various cities. 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, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities & critically polluted areas, public awareness etc.