

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3735

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012

NITROGEN LEAKAGE

Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted a comprehensive study to analyze the reasons for increase in the Nitrogen level in the big cities of the country including the National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the effects on human health;
- (c) the details of the cities facing this problem; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are monitoring ambient air quality including levels of oxides of nitrogen in the country. The levels of oxides of nitrogen, have exceeded the standard of 40 Mg/m³ during 2011 in Delhi, Faridabad, Jamshedpur, Kolkata, Meerut, Pune, Asansol and Raipur. According to some epidemiological studies, health effects are associated with air pollution. However, due to various confounding factors, no conclusive data could be established indicating relationship between air pollution and consequential health impacts. The steps taken to control increasing level of nitrogen vis-à-vis air 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, increasing public awareness etc.