

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3299

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009

POLLUTION DUE TO VEHICLES

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for all diesel vehicles in Delhi to use ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD) to control air pollution as a result of rising number of vehicles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which it will come into force;
- (d) whether use of ULSD by diesel vehicles is likely to be enforced in other cities also;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to control air pollution in Delhi and other Metro cities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (e) The Government, with a view to control air pollution due to rising number of vehicles, has progressively reduced the content of sulphur in diesel from a level of 1% maximum as on 01-04-1996 to 0.25% maximum with effect from 01-01-2000. In the four metro cities, sulphur content in diesel had been reduced to a level of 0.05% maximum with effect from October, 2001. Further, the reduction of sulphur content in diesel to 0.005% (50mg/kg) in eleven metro cities including National Capital Region (NCR) by 01-04-2010 has been notified under Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

In addition, Bharat Stage IV emission norms have been notified for these eleven metro cities with effect from 1st April, 2010. These cities, apart from the NCR, are Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad/Secundarabad, Bangalore, Surat, Ahemdabad, Kanpur, Pune & Agra.

(f) Various steps taken by the Government to reduce air pollution in the metro cities are as follows:

- (i) Bharat Stage (BS) III emission norms for passenger cars and BS II norms for two wheelers in ten metro cities, namely, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad/Secunderabad, Kanpur, Pune, Surat and Agra apart from National Capital Region are implemented since 01-04-2005.
- (ii) BS IV emission norms for passenger cars and B.S. III for two wheelers in above 10 metro cities apart from National Capital Region have been notified with effect from 01-04-2010.
- (iii) Stricter pollution under control (PUC) norms for in-use vehicles have been implemented with effect from 01-10-2004.
- (iv) The emission standards for industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (v) Use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants is in vogue.
- (vi) Action-plans for 24 Critically Polluted Areas are under implementation.
- (vii) Fuel quality in accordance with the roadmap of Auto Fuel Policy has been ensured across the country.
- (viii) Mass rapid transport system (MRTS) including Metro has been introduced in select metro cities in the country.
- (ix) Infrastructure related to construction of flyovers, bridges and roads, to reduce congestion, has been augmented.