

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:153

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015

EVALUATION OF HEALTH AFFECTING FACTORS OF POLLUTION

Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Radhakrishnan Shri T.

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

- (a) the number of industrial clusters which are classified as critically polluted areas and severely polluted areas on the basis of a comprehensive environmental pollution index;
- (b) whether the Government/Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) proposes to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for evaluation of various health affecting factors of pollution;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government/CPCB has set up a panel for the purpose and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the panel is likely to submit its report?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi had carried out a comprehensive environmental assessment of 88 prominent industrial clusters during 2009-10 based on Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) criteria. Out of these 88 prominent industrial clusters, 43 industrial clusters in 16 States having CEPI score of 70 and above are identified as critically polluted areas. Further, 32 industrial clusters with CEPI scores between 60 to 70 are categorized as severely polluted areas.

The 'Technical Review Committee' in its meeting held on January 22, 2015 discussed the issues related to the 'Epidemiological Studies for Assessment of effect of Pollution (Air, Water & land/soil) on Human Health in Critically & Severally Polluted Areas' and agreed for development of the simplified & uniform 'Standard Operating Procedure' for evaluation for evaluation of various health affecting factors of pollution. Accordingly, a 'Working Group' headed by the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and comprising national level experts in the field including officials, was constituted to develop an easy to understand 'Standard Operating Procedure' for evaluation of various health affecting factors of pollution. The Working Group shall also identify Agencies in each State for collection and collation of the data required for assessment of effect of pollutants (air, water & land/ soil) on human health in critically & severely polluted areas. The details of the Working Group is available on the website of CPCB. The report of the Working Group is likely to be finalized by March 31, 2015.