

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4456
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015
AFFIDAVIT ON POLLUTION
Nath Shri Chand

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

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has refuted the affidavit submitted by the Ministry to the Supreme Court;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to upgrade quality of fuel as per Euro-IV norms; and;
- (d) the action taken by the Government to ensure compliance of prescribed norms regarding air quality?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No Sir. However, Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for NCR has filed its response dated 16.01.2015 on the MoEF&CC's affidavit filed in the Interlocutory Application No. 345 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13029 of 1985 in the matter of M. C. Mehta vs. Union of India & Others regarding Air Quality Index, contributory factors of air pollution, leap-frogging of fuel quality from Bharat Stage-IV (BS - IV) to Bharat Stage -VI (BS - VI) throughout the country by April 2020. An additional affidavit was filed by the MoEF&CC on the contribution of vehicular pollution as per the Source Apportionment Study carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board both in terms of sources as well as its contribution in ambient air.

(c) & (d) As per Auto Fuel Policy, 2003, Bharat Stage - IV (BS-IV) Auto Fuels were introduced in 13 identified major cities in the country on 01.04.2010 and BS - III was implemented in the rest of the country in a staggered manner between April 1, 2010 to September 22, 2010. Further expansion of BS-IV fuel to additional 50 cities has already been done by 15.03.2015. As per Auto Fuel Vision & Policy, 2025, a decision for availability of BS - IV fuels in the entire country by 1st April, 2017 in a phased manner was notified by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas's orders dated 19.01.2015.

The action taken by the Government to ensure compliance of prescribed norms regarding air quality inter alia include supply of cleaner fuels as per Auto Fuel Policy, pollution under control (PUC) certificate system for in-use vehicles, Supply of improved diesel and gasoline and operating Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) mode public transport in metro cities, introduction of metro rail in metro cities to promote use of mass public transport system, launching of Air Quality Index and health advisory, stringent source specific emission standards for air polluting industries and their compliance, use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants, strengthening public transport, implementation of revised emission norms for gensets, cement plants, etc.