

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:867
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
POLLUTION LEVEL
Sreeramulu Shri B.

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

- (a) whether the pollution level in the country is at an all time high;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, city and State-wise and the reason therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;
- (d) If so the details and outcome thereof; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to curb pollution in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (d). Ambient air quality is regularly monitored at 573 locations in 240 cities, towns and industrial areas in 27 States and 5 UTs under National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in terms of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and PM₁₀ (particulate matter having size equal to or less than 10 micron) across the country. In view of this, no study is required.

NAMP is coordinated by CPCB and the data so collected is collated, compiled, processed and published on annual basis. Based on the analysis of data, 95 cities and towns have been identified as non attainment cities where ambient level of one or more than one pollutant have exceeded the standards for three consecutive years, i.e., 2008, 2009, 2010 (Annexure-I). However, SO₂ levels remained within norms in all cities and towns.

(e) The Government has taken various measure to curb pollution in the country which inter alia include, supply of cleaner fuels as per auto fuel policy, use of gaseous fuel for public transport, stringent source specific emission standards, strict compliance of source specific emission standards, use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants, implementation of revised emission norms for gensets, implementation of city specific action plan in 16 cities, etc.