

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:672  
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014  
AIR POLLUTION IN VISAKHAPATNAM  
Kambhampati Dr. Hari Babu

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

- (a) whether the air pollution levels in Visakhapatnam city are quite high due to Visakhapatnam Port Trusts, Cargo handling operations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to reduce air pollution levels?

**Answer**

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

(a) &(b). The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is monitoring ambient air quality at eight locations in the city of Visakhapatnam. Three pollutants, namely Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Particulate Matter less than or equal to 10 micron (PM<sub>10</sub>) are being monitored. The analysis of air quality data with respect to SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> for the year 2010, 2011 and 2012 indicates that these two parameters are within the notified National Ambient Air Quality Standards, i.e. 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual averages), respectively. The levels of PM<sub>10</sub> exceed the standards of 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual average) at most of the location in Vishakhapatnam.

Apart from cargo handling at port, there are other air polluting industries in Visakhapatnam i.e. a refinery, a steel plant, captive power plants, a stand alone power plant, etc. movement of vehicles and burning of fuel in domestic sector are the prominent sources of air pollution.

(c). The provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 are being implemented by the APPCB to control air pollution from the industries in Visakhapatnam. BS-IV compliant passenger cars and BS-III compliant two wheelers are only sold and registered in Visakhapatnam. APPCB has issued directions on 16.04.2012 to Visakhapatnam Port Trust, so as to handle the cargo in environmental friendly manner. CPCB had issued direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.