

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2716
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
POLLUTION STANDARDS
Puttaraju Shri C.S.

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

- (a) whether pollution standards exist for each individual power plant in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of cases of premature deaths and asthma cases that have been reported an account of exposure to PM10 pollution; and
- (c) the steps taken to reduce the overall pollution content of the ambient air in the country?

Answer

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

- (a). The emission standards for coal and naphtha / gas based thermal power plants have been notified by the Government under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 which are enforced by various State Pollution Control Board (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) as per their respective jurisdiction.
- (b). As informed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), CPCB have not undertaken any study relating to mortality due to air pollution. The CPCB had undertaken three epidemiological studies which indicated that several pulmonary and systemic changes and other health impairments are associated with cumulative exposure to high level of particulate matter which increases the risk of various diseases including respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. However, the results are indicative rather than conclusive. These studies assessed the morbidity aspects and not the mortality aspects.
- (c). The Government has taken various measures to contain air pollution in cities which interalia includes, supply of cleaner fuels as per Auto Fuel Policy, use of gaseous fuel for public transport in select cities, pollution under control (PUC) certificate system for in-use vehicles, stringent source specific emission standards and their compliance, use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants, strengthening public transport, expansion of metro train system in select cities, implementation of revised emission norms for gensets, etc.