

offence under this Act has been committed by a company, every person who, at the time the offence was committed, was directly incharge of, and was responsible to, the company for the conduct of the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

[Translation]

Pollution in Metropolitan Cities

* 235. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :

SHRI K.T. VANDAYAR :

Will the MINISTER of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- the relative position amongst India's and World's major cities in terms of pollution level;
- the level of various kind of pollution in Metropolitan cities of the country at present;
- the reasons therefor; and
- the effective steps being taken to control the pollution level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) According to the report, "Global Pollution and Health" prepared by World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the levels of suspended particulate matter (SPM) in respect of Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay rank 4th, 6th and 13th respectively among 41 cities of the World. With respect to sulphur dioxide, these cities rank 27th, 18th and 37th respectively, among 54 cities.

(b) Based on the ambient air quality monitoring carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board, the levels of air pollution in respect of suspended particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen during 1993-94 in the major metro cities are given below :

Sl. No.	City	Levels of Air Pollution (Annual mean concentration in micrograms per cubic meter)		
		Suspended particulate matter (SPM)	Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	Oxides of nitrogen (NO _x)
01.	Delhi	322-622	13.7-30.7	25.7-51.7
02.	Madras	71-144	69-233	9.1-27.1
03.	Calcutta	235-640	16.7-65.1	18.1-62.0
04.	Bombay	92-475	6.0-49.5	6.0-33.1

(c) The major causes of pollution in major cities are increasing number of vehicles, industrial production, human activities and natural dusty conditions. Vehicular

pollution contributes to about 60% of the total air pollution in metropolitan cities.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to control pollution in the country include the following :

- Emission and effluent standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
- Industries have been directed to instal necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.
- Customs and excise duty exemption are provided to the industries for pollution control/ monitoring equipment.
- A scheme for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in clusters of small-scale industrial units is under implementation.
- Public awareness campaigns on the effects of pollution have been launched.
- A network of ambient air and water quality monitoring stations have been set up.
- A programme for phasing out of lead content in petrol is under implementation. Unleaded petrol with catalytic converter fitted vehicles have been introduced in four metropolitan cities to begin with.
- More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 which would come into effect from April, 1996.
- Ministry of Surface Transport has been asked to instruct Delhi Transport Corporation that polluting buses and those under lease by the State Transport Authorities should not outshed from 1st January, 1996.

[English]

Western Ghats

* 236. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of centrally as well as externally assisted projects being implemented for the development of Western Ghats; and

(b) the financial assistance provided under each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). Statement regarding financial assistance