

[Translation]

Pollution Control

5902. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI JANARDAAN MISRA :

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

(a) whether non-implementation of Government policies in regard to pollution control is the main factor of increasing all types of pollution;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-implementation of these policies; and

(c) the concrete measures being taken by the Government to implement these policies to check all types of pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Human activities linked with the rapid population growth is the main factor for increase in pollution, inspite of steps taken for implementation of pollution control policies. A rapid growth in vehicular emissions, and discharge of untreated/partially treated sewage into the water bodies have increased the pollution load.

(c) The measures taken to check pollution include:

- (i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed.
- (ii) A notification stipulating the ambient air quality standards has been issued.
- (iii) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (iv) Unleaded petrol has been introduced from 1.4.95 in the four metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras for use in cars fitted with catalytic converters.
- (v) Standards for emissions from vehicles both at the manufacturing and in-use stage have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. A programme for effective compliance with these standards has been initiated. Stricter standards for vehicles at the manufacturing stage to come into effect from April 1, 1996.
- (vi) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- (vii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.
- (viii) A scheme has been initiated for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in cluster of small scale industrial units.

(ix) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I is in the process of completion and the Government have approved the Yamuna and Gomti Action Plans under Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-II. The Government have also approved the National River Action Plan which will cover identified polluted river stretches not covered under the GAP phase I and phase II.

(x) Accelerated depreciation is provided for pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

(xi) Custom and Excise Duty Exemption are provided to the industries for pollution control/monitoring equipment.

(xii) The Central Pollution Control Board has evolved codes of practices for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles. These include public address system, air craft operation, railway operation, construction activities, and bursting of crackers. State Governments have been asked to implement these codes of practices under the relevant local acts.

(xiii) Noise limits for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment have been notified.

(xiv) Public awareness campaigns on the effects of pollution have been launched.

Training Programmes for Farmers

5903. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have organised frontline demonstrations on farmers' fields and training programmes for the farmers and agricultural labourers for effective transfer of technology and non-economic inputs;

(b) whether such programmes have also been organised in Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the number of such programmes organised in Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh and the number of farmers benefited therefrom; and

(d) the total amount spent on such programmes in the country during 1994-95 and the percentage of amount spent out of the above in Uttarakhand region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is organising frontline demonstrations on farmers' fields and training programmes for the farmers and agricultural