

## **Regarding measures to curb the increasing pollution level in Delhi-NCR-laid**

**SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR):** Delhi's air quality has been consistently ranked among the worst in the world for several years. The situation has worsened significantly this year, with air quality indexes reaching hazardous levels, crossing the 400 mark. The current air quality in Delhi is beyond acceptable. The combination of vehicular emissions, industrial pollutants, dust from construction activities, and agricultural residue burning has created a toxic smog that hangs over the city, causing respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular diseases and other health complications. Children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions are particularly vulnerable to these harmful effects. The deteriorating air quality has led to an unprecedented rise in hospital admissions due to pollution-related illnesses. The resultant out-of-pocket expenditure has put undue strain on millions of region residents. The air quality crisis in Delhi is a public health emergency that cannot be ignored. I urge the Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change to intervene urgently, to propose a comprehensive air-shed approach in the polluted belts in and around the Delhi-NCR region, strengthen the regulatory bodies, and identify other pollution belts in the country. This will ensure that no citizen is deprived of the basic human right to clean air and good health.