

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:758

ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004

DEATHS DUE TO ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted to co-relate excessive deaths occurring in major cities of the country on account of environmental pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the percentage of the total annual increase in the environmental pollution during each of the last three years, city-wise;
- (c) the strategy being formulated by the Government to gear up the measures of controlling environmental pollution; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken to implement the above strategy alongwith the progress made by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) Environmental Health Studies have indicated the incidences of morbidity in few major cities. However, there is no conclusive data available to establish cause-effect relationship between manifestations of various diseases and the environmental pollution.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board, no definite trend of increase in air pollution in residential areas of metropolitan cities except in Delhi in respect of Oxides of Nitrogen was observed during the last three years. Strategies adopted and measures taken for control of environmental pollution include comprehensive policy for abatement of pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel including CNG, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, management of municipal & bio-medical wastes, promotion of cleaner technologies, setting up of net-work of air & water quality monitoring stations, assessment of pollution load & source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities and critically polluted areas.