

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:724
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
CHECK ON EMISSION OF VEHICULAR SMOKE
Vijay Krishna Shri

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

- (a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court had given any direction on April 29, 1999 about keeping a check on the vehicles emitting smoke;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has taken any action in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction dated 29.4.1999 relates to air pollution concerns due to exhaust emissions from private vehicles in the National Capital Region [NCR]. As per the order, all private (non-commercial) vehicles were required to conform to Euro-I norms in the NCR by 1st June, 1999 and from 1st April, 2000, no private (non-commercial) vehicles were to be registered in the NCR unless they conform to the Euro – II norms. Further, as per the order, the ban on the registration of diesel driven taxis was required to be strictly enforced, unless the taxis also conform to the Euro-II norms.

(c) & (d) The Government have taken several steps for prevention and control of air pollution, which are as follows:

- Diesel vehicles that did not conform to the Euro-II equivalent standards on or from 1st April, 2000 were levied fine and impounded.
- From April, 1998 onwards, the registration of older defence and govt. auctioned vehicles that were mostly run on diesel was banned.
- More than 15 years old commercial/transport vehicles had been phased out.
- The practice of alteration of petrol vehicles to diesel vehicles in the NCR was banned in 1998.
- Restriction was imposed on movement of goods vehicles during daytime from August 1999 in Delhi.
- From November, 2002, all diesel buses and taxis were switched over to run only on the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
- From 1st April, 2005, Euro-III equivalent norms and commensurate quality of fuel were introduced in Delhi.