

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:762
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
DEVICE TO TRACK PARTICULATE MATTERS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pollution in the capital is increasing despite introduction of CNG in autos and buses;
- (b) if so, the reasons and the rate of pollution detected;
- (c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recently installed a device to track 'Particulate Matter 2.5' as reported in the Hindustan Times dated September 18, 2006;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which the installation of new gadgets by CPCB would check increase in pollution.

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) With the introduction of various steps taken for controlling air pollution in Delhi, which includes introduction of the compressed natural gas (CNG) in autos and buses, the levels of Sulphur Dioxide are observed to be within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards at all the monitoring stations. While, the levels of the Nitrogen Dioxide are also observed to be within the Ambient Air Quality Standards except at the ITO traffic inter-section and the Town Hall in Delhi. Whereas, the levels of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter are observed to be generally exceeding the Standards.
- (c) & (d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has installed a continuous automatic dust analyzer for measuring Particulate Matter [size less than 2.5 micron] at the ITO traffic inter-section in Delhi as mentioned in the news item in The Hindustan Times of 18th September, 2006.
- (e) The 'Particulate Matter 2.5' (PM 2.5) Monitor has been installed with a view to formulating strategy for controlling and reduction of the fine particulate matter.