

Use of CNG in vehicles

2820. **SHRI AKHILESH DAS:**
SHRIMATI VEENA
VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A.
PARMAR:

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

(a) whether in order to control pollution in metropolitan towns attributable to diesel and petrol driven vehicles, Government have been decided to switch over to CNG or battery-driven vehicles;

(b) if so, the present particulate density of air, indicating the percentage of different obnoxious and toxic gases at peak hours of traffic at the most congested traffic points in each of the metropolis; and

(c) how far it is likely to be controlled and reduced with introduction of relatively non-polluting vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a)
No, Sir. However, the Government has initiated the following steps to

promote the use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG);

—Providing customs duty exemption for CNG kits;

—allotment of land for setting up of CNG filling stations;

—conversion of DTC and private city buses to single fuel more on CNG by 31.3.2001 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

—No 8 year old buses to ply except on CNG or other clean fuels by 1.4.2000 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Subsidy for battery-driven vehicles is also made available by the Government.

(b) No specific study has been carried out indicating the percentage of different obnoxious and toxic gases at peak hours of traffic at the most congested traffic points in the metropolis except at Delhi. The data of pollution at different traffic intersections in Delhi is enclosed in the Statement. (See below).

(c) There is likely to be considerable reduction in the pollution levels with the introduction of non-polluting vehicles. About 88—99% reduction in pollution caused due to diesel vehicles may be achieved if these switch over to clean fuels such as CNG/LPG/Propane etc.

Statement

Air quality (Particulate matter) at major traffic intersection in Delhi (Feb., 1997)
(Concentration in Micrograms per Cubic meter)

Sl. No.	Locations	SPM 24 Hrs. Avg.	RSPM 24 Hrs. Avg.	RSPM as % of SPM
1.	Ashram	870	299	34.4
2.	Dhaukuan	438	186	42.5
3.	Punjabibagh	853	269	31.5
4.	Laxmingar	1080	553	51.2
5.	Red Fort	881	436	49.5
6.	Red Fort	1085	490	45.2
7.	Pusa Chowk	781	287	36.7

Sl. No.	Locations	SPM 24 Hrs. Avg	RSPM 24 Hrs. Avg.	RSPM as % of SPM
8.	I.A.R.I	269	150	55.8
9.	Moti Nagar	629	249	39.6
10.	Raja Garden	1448	387	26.7
11.	I.T.O.	292	168	57.5
12.	I.T.O.	471	217	46.1
13.	Azad Market	830	329	39.6
14.	I.S.B.T.	509	222	43.6
15.	Shyamal College	969	449	46.3
16.	Azadpur	1084	376	34.7
17.	Delhi Gate	683	265	38.8
18.	Delhi Gate	730	265	36.3
19.	A.I.I.M.S.	813	230	28.3
20.	Old Delhi Rly. Station	865	320	37.0
21.	Nehru Place	468	205	43.8
22.	Minto Road	801	310	38.7
	Range	269—1448	150—553	26.7—57.5
	Mean	766	303	41.1

SPM=Suspended Particulate Matter

RSPM=Respirable Particulate Matter

Stock Position of Wheat and Rice

2821. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's stock position of wheat and rice, as on 1st April, 1999, is expected to be at least 20.8 million tonnes, against the buffer requirement of 15.8 million tonnes, as reported in the Statesman dated 30th March, 1999;

(b) if so, what is the present storage capacity of foodgrains in the country, State-wise, during the last three years; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far, for safe storage of five million tonnes of extra wheat and rice expected this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The stock position of rice and wheat as on 1.4.1999 is expected to be 11.62 million tonnes and 9.30 million tonnes against the buffer norm of 11.80 million tonnes of rice and 4.00 million tonnes of wheat respectively.

(b) The total storage capacity (owned + hired + CAP) available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on 1.3.1999 is 23.47 million tonnes. Statement showing the storage capacity available with FCI during the last three years is indicated at enclosed statement (See below)

(c) The storage capacity available with FCI is sufficient to maintain buffer stocks for PDS.