

(c) It is 55 dB (A) Leq during 'day time' and 45 dB (A) Leq during 'night time' for residential areas. 'Day time' and 'night time' mean 6.00 am to 10.00 pm and 10.00 pm to 6.00 am, respectively. dB (A) Leq denotes the time weighted average of the level of sound in decibels on scale A which is relatable to human hearing.

(d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) have been carrying out sporadic noise monitoring in urban areas, mainly during festivals such as Deepawali. A few SPCBs and PCCs have initiated regular noise monitoring since 2008-2009. As per available data, the prescribed noise norms for various areas are exceeded at many locations. However, a definite trend can not be ascertained since limited data is available.

(e) The CPCB has undertaken the task to establish a National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network.

Air quality forecasting system

1272. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to instruct various Pollution Control Boards in the country to install air quality forecasting systems in various cities of the country falling under their jurisdiction so that the people could know about the level of the quality prevalent in that city at a particular time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There is no proposal regarding instructing various State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to install air quality forecasting systems in various cities of the country. The Indian Institute of Tropical Metrology (IITM), Pune under the aegis of the Ministry of Earth Sciences has established an air quality forecasting system and has provided daily forecast in Delhi.

(c) The concept of air quality forecasting systems is still in a stage of evolution in India. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has established one such system on pilot basis to understand the technological nuances and other dimensions of forecasting.