Policy to check dangerous air pollution

†*280. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken to check the rising pollution in big cities of the country like Delhi, Mumbai etc.; and
- (b) whether any policy has been formulated to check the dangerous air pollution in Delhi, the capital of the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The Government has taken various measures to check the rising pollution in big cities of the country like Delhi, Mumbai etc. These measures are given in Statement (See below).

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Government has formulated integrated policies like National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992; Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and National Environment Policy, 2006 to protect and conserve environment which *inter-alia* include prevention and control of air pollution across the country. No specific policy has been formulated to check the air pollution in Delhi.

Statement

Measures taken to check the rising pollution

A. Air Pollution

- (i) Notification of emission standards for various categories of industry and gensets under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986;
- (ii) Implementation of action plans for improvement of ambient air quality in 17 cities including Delhi;
- (iii) Introduction of cleaner fuels (B.S. III/IV) as per the Auto Fuel Policy and registration of B.S. IV compliant passenger cars in selected metropolitan cities and towns apart from National Capital Region;
- (iv) Introduction of gaseous fuel (CNG and LPG) in selected cities and towns;
- (v) Use of beneficiated coal for coal based thermal power plants;
- (vi) Enforcement of stringent 'Pollution Under Control (PUC)' certificate scheme to check exhaust emissions from in-use vehicles;
- (vii) Source Apportionment Studies for fine particulate matter undertaken in six metro cities including Delhi, Mumbai, etc.;
- (viii) Notification of revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards (November, 2009);
- (ix) Strengthening of National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network;
- (x) Strengthening of mass public transport including establishment of metro rail, low floor bus, in selected metropolitan cities.

B. Water Pollution

 Notification of effluent standards and special drives in 17 categories of highly polluting industries;

- (ii) Establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants and Sewage Treatment Plants;
- (iii) Implementation of National River Conservation Plan and setting up of National Ganga River Basin Authority;
- (iv) Augmentation of flow in rivers for maintaining their ecological balance including desired water quality; and
- (v) Implementation of rain water harvesting practices in various regions of the country to augment the depleted water table.

C. Noise Pollution

- (i) Implementation of noise standards notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986;
- (ii) Instructions issued to all the State Governments and UT Administrations in February, 2010 to ensure compliance of the provisions of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2010; and
- (iii) Establishment of a National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network on the pattern of existing Ambient Air and Water Quality Networks in the country.

D. Municipal Solid Waste

- (i) Notification of the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000;
- (ii) Municipal authorities made responsible for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal waste;
- (iii) Authorization and monitoring by the State Pollution Control Boards for storage, treatment and disposal facilities for municipal solid waste;
- (iv) Planning, designing, implementation, operation and maintenance of Solid Waste Management (SWM) system in the urban areas by State Governments/ Urban Local Bodies; and
- (v) Financial assistance to State Pollution Control Boards/Committees to conduct training workshops and group meetings with local bodies in order to create awareness about the provisions of the said rules.