

Extension of tenure for EPCA

2137. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tenure of the Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) which was scheduled to end on 4th July, 2018 has been extended by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reason for extension of the tenure of EPCA;
- (c) whether the functioning of EPCA is upto the expectation and is being monitored regularly; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The tenure of Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA) has been extended upto October 3, 2018 or until further orders whichever is earlier, by Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change *vide* gazette notification dated 04.07.2018 for continuity. The copy of notification is given in the Statement (*See* below). Government receives reports from / EPCA from time to time including 29 reports addressing different issues related to air pollution in NCR since its re-constitution in 2016. Government has been assessing reports of EPCA and air quality in Delhi regularly.

Statement

Copy of the gazette notification regarding extension of the tenure of the EPCA

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA: EXTRAORDINARY [PART II—SEC. 3(II)]

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**ORDER**

New Delhi, the 4th July, 2018

S.O. 3243(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government hereby makes the following amendment in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, number S.O. 2311(E), dated the 4th July, 2016, namely;—

In the said notification.—

- (i) in the opening paragraph, serial numbers (12) and (13) and the entries relating thereto, shall be omitted;
- (ii) in paragraph 11, for the words "for a period of two years", the words and figures "For a period upto the 3rd October, 2018 or until further orders whichever is earlier" shall be substituted.

[F No. Q-18011/I3/2000-CPA (Pt.)]

RITESH KUMAR SINGH, Jt. Secy.

Note: The principal notification was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, *vide* number S.O. 2311(E), dated 401 July, 2016.

Measures to tackle dust pollution

2138. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has taken a host of measures to tackle dust pollution, including the launching of three pilot projects to tackle polluted air;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the National Clean Air Programme is likely to be finalised and sent to States so that they can make plans to curb air pollution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) (b) The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution which *inter alia*, include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; universalization of BS-IV from 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020; notifications regarding 'Mandatory Implementation of Dust Mitigation Measures for Construction and Demolition Activities for projects requiring EC and 'Mandatory Implementation of Dust Mitigation Measures for all Construction and Demolition Activities'; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules;