

Study to assess pollution from coal based power plants

2774. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the pollution emanating from coal based power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the losses of life and property due to the pollution during last two years;
- (c) whether those polluting power plants are not complying with the prescribed guidelines of Government and if so, the details thereof and since when these plants are not having pollution control equipment; and
- (d) the effective steps taken by Government to check the pollution emanating from coal based power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Ministry or its technical body, viz. Central Pollution Control Board have not conducted any study to assess pollution from coal based thermal power plants.

(c) and (d) As per the emission norms notified in the year 1989, power plants were to comply with emission limit of particulate matter only. Accordingly, all the power plants have provided Electro Static Precipitators to control emission of particulate matter. Central Pollution Control Board has carried out inspection of 48 power plants during 2016-17 and 2017-18 based on high number of alerts generated from Online Continuous Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS). Out of 48 power plants inspected, 34 power plants were found complying emission and effluent standards, 11 plants were found non-complying and 03 plants were found self-closed. Directions under Section-5 of Environmental Protection Act, 1986 were issued to all 11 non-compliant thermal power plants for ensuring compliance.

Further steps taken to control pollution from thermal power plants include as identification of thermal power plants as one of the 17 highly polluting categories of industries, directions to installation of OCEMS for thermal power plants, issue of closure orders to the plants which do not install OCEMS, notification of new emission norms *vide* dated 7.12.2015. In addition, CPCB has issued directions to thermal power plants on 11.12.2017 for compliance of revised emission norms within the timelines

submitted by Ministry of Power. Implementation of these limits will help in reduction in Particulate Matter (PM), Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) by about 40%, 48% and 48% respectively which will help in improvement of Ambient Air Quality in and around thermal power plants.

Survey regarding emission of GHGs

2775. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has carried out any survey regarding the emission of Green House Gases (GHGs) from different sources in the country;
- (b) if so, date of publication thereof; and
- (c) steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) As per the second Biennial Update Report submitted by India on 31st December, 2018 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the quantum of India's total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions excluding Land use Land use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) in 2014 was 2.607 billion tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂eq). About 12% of emissions were offset by the LULUCF sector. Considering emissions and removals from LULUCF sector, net national emissions in 2014 were 2.306 billion tonnes CO₂eq. The energy sector accounted for 73% of the total GHG emissions, the Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) 8%, Agriculture 16% and Waste sector accounted for 3% of the total GHG emissions in 2014.

Measures to improve air quality

†2776. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that number of Asthma patients is increasing continuously due to presence of poisonous air in different parts of country;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any concrete and effective steps to check the same; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.