

1	2	3	4	5
Industry	27%	22%	30%	22%
Dust (soil, road, and const.)	25%	42%	17%	38%
Transport	24%	15%	28%	17%
Others	10%	7%	11%	8%

### Ozone pollution

†989. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) details of the number of times when Central Pollution Control Board had issued data on increasing levels of ozone pollution in Delhi-NCR which is beyond the set standard;
- (b) details of the ill-effects of increased levels of ozone on human health;
- (c) details of the steps taken by the Ministry from time to time to reduce ozone levels; and
- (d) whether there is a fear of increase in deaths due to ozone pollution exceeding the set limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The monitoring data of ozone in Delhi-NCR is regularly displayed on Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) website on real time basis. The analysis of AQI for Delhi reveals that during last three years (2016-18), ozone was reported as prominent pollutant for 95 days in Delhi and 11, 48, 8 and 49 days in Faridabad, Gurugram, Ghaziabad and Noida respectively. Status of data is attached as Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (d) Rise in ozone levels is considered as one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. Irritation can occur in respiratory system causing coughing, and, uncomfortable sensation in chest. It may reduce lung function and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

make breathing difficult. There are no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of mortality/morbidity exclusively due to rise in ozone levels.

(c) Ozone is a secondary pollutant which is formed through atmospheric reactions and responsible factors are high temperature and emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) & Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Major sources for NO<sub>x</sub> include vehicles, power plants and burning of fuel/waste. VOCs are emitted from vehicles, petrol pumps, use of solvents and burning of waste.

The Government has taken several measures to control NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs emissions which include the following:

- Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country which will reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions of heavy duty diesel vehicles by 88.5% in comparison to BS-IV vehicles.
- Installation of vapour recovery systems in petrol pumps.
- Introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending.
- Promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads.
- Operationalisation of Eastern Peripheral Expressway & Western Peripheral Expressway to divert non-destined traffic from Delhi which results in smooth traffic flow and reduces emissions.
- Streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate.
- Banning of burning of biomass and garbage.
- 3 Waste-to-Energy (W-t-E) plants are currently operational in Delhi with a total capacity of 5100 Tonnes Per Day (TPD).
- Notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes issued in 2016.
- Notification of stricter emission norms for power plants.
- Closure of Badarpurthermal power plant in Delhi.

**Statement***Air Quality Index Status of Ozone in Delhi-NCR**Total number of days with ozone reported as prominent pollutant*

City	Prominent Parameter	2016	2017	2018 (Till 31st May,)	2019
Delhi	Ozone	36	14	45	23
Faridabad	Ozone	3	0	8	55
Gurugram	Ozone	43	0	5	6
Ghaziabad	Ozone	,	0	8	3
Noida	Ozone	,	33	16	0

**Report of WGEEP**

990. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that report submitted by the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) had recommended that the entire Western Ghats should be declared as an ecologically sensitive area with three levels of categorization and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that WGEEP had also asked the Ministry not to give environment clearance to the Gundia hydroelectric project in Karnataka and the Athirapally dam on the Chalakudy river in Kerala's Thrissur district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Yes Sir. After submitting its report by WGEEP, the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF &CC) had constituted a High Level Working Group (HLWG) under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member, Planning Commission to *inter alia*, examine the WGEEP Report in a holistic and multidisciplinary fashion. HLWG had delineated a contiguous Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) of 59,940 sq. km. out of 37% the total area of (164, 280 sq km) identified as Western Ghats spread over six States- (i) Kerala (ii) Tamil Nadu (iii) Karnataka (iii) Goa (iv) Maharashtra and (v) Gujarat and recommended specific measures for conservation.

(b) WGEEP did not recommend the execution of the Gundia hydroelectric project in Karnataka and Athirapally Hydro electric project in Kerala as the loss of biodiversity and