February 2, 2019

Ref: MoP&NG e-mail dated 01.02.2019 – Provisionally Admitted Rajya Sabha Q No. U1049 on Automobile Vehicles and pollution in NCR to be answered on 11.02.2019

Q (a) Whether Government is aware that major air pollution in NCR is due to Automobile Vehicles;

Ans.(a) Air quality is impacted not only by emission from the automobile tailpipe exhaust; Industrial activity, thermal power plants, construction dust & debris and the other factors like stubble burning, etc. all contribute to the emissions. The air quality in Delhi has been of a particular concern, both on account of the intensity of generation of pollutants from diverse factors as above and the meteorological characteristics due to "inversion" in the winter months resulting in deterioration of ambient air quality.

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) may reply suitably.

Q (b) If so, whether Government has any plan to impose some restriction on number of vehicles in NCR to control pollution; and

Ans.(b): Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) to reply.

Q (c) Whether the Government has any plan to provide clean air to breath in NCR.

Ans.(c): Govt. has decided to leapfrog from BS-IV emission norms to BS-VI emission norms skipping BS-V altogether from 1.4.2020. Further, Govt. has also mandated supply of BS-VI fuels only with 10 ppm sulphur in NCT of Delhi from 1.4.2018, which will be extended to NCR from 1.4.2019, much ahead of schedule.

A scheme has been launched to promote compressed bio-gas in a big way. Besides the potential to boost availability of more affordable transport fuels, this initiative holds great promise for tackling the problem of polluted urban air due to farm stubble-burning.

MOEF &CC may reply suitably.