

“Economic Impact Due To Automobile Air Pollution Linked Diseases In Rewa”

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Abstract

Nowadays air over major cities throughout the world has become over burdened with gases produced by automobiles. The death rate due to automobiles pollution is increasing rapidly in the metropolitan areas. Every year an estimated 800,000 people die prematurely from illnesses caused by outdoor air pollution worldwide. They compare cost-of-illness (COI) and willingness-to-pay (WTP) estimates of the damages from minor respiratory symptoms associated with air pollution using data from a study in Rewa in 2010-2011. The present study is an attempt to exploit air problems and diseases caused by the automobile air pollution and its cause economic problem by the treatment of disease. We conclude from our results that blood pressure, ENT (Eye, nose and throat), fatigue, gastrointestinal diseases and cancer were highly correlated with lead distribution. We also conclude that the motor vehicles/ automobiles now constitute the main source of air pollution. On the basis of observation Bus stand sites is highly polluted than the Sirmour chauk in which respiratory problem recorded 45.24% at sirmour chauk and 48.73% at Bus stand and expenditure is maximum on Bus stand is 572244 Rs. than the Sirmour chauk 509537 Rs.

Key Words: Urban air pollution, Human health and Economic loss.

1. Introduction

In most countries in Europe, ambient air quality has improved considerably in the last few decades. However, there is a large body of evidence suggesting that exposure to air pollution, even at the levels commonly achieved nowadays in European countries, leads to adverse health effects. In particular, exposure to pollutants such as particulate matter and ozone has been found to be associated with increases in hospital admissions for cardiovascular, respiratory disease, gastrointestinal disease, Skin disease, eye disease, ear disease and mortality in many cities in Europe and other continents. Recent studies have also tried to quantify the health effects caused by ambient air pollution; e.g., within the “Global Burden of Disease” project of the World Health Organization (WHO) it has been estimated that worldwide, close to 6.4 million years of healthy life are lost due to long-term exposure to ambient particulate matter. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that every year 800,000 people die prematurely from lung cancer, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases caused by outdoor air pollution. Other adverse health effects include increased incidence of chronic bronchitis and acute respiratory illness, exacerbation of asthma and coronary disease, and impairment of lung Function. This note outlines how cities can estimate health gains to their residents as they take steps to reduce outdoor air pollution. It discusses the types of studies used to quantify the relationships between air pollution and human health. Air quality affects human health. Nearly 1.4 billion urban residents in the world breathe air that fails the WHO air quality standards. At the global level, mortality due to exposure to outdoor air pollution is estimated to range from 200,000 to 570,000. In Indian cities, among the most polluted in the world, available mortality and morbidity statistics indicate that respiratory infections and chronic conditions are widespread. The major source of air pollution in Rewa is vehicular traffic, which emits particulate matter, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, etc. Particulate matter, the main atmospheric pollutant, can have severe health effects. Air pollution episodes in Muese Valley (1930), Donora (1948) and the London fog of 1952 resulted in heavy mortality. These events indicate that short term elevated levels of particulate matter and sulphur dioxide can lead to a variety of pulmonary disorders including mortality. Respirable particulate matter (RPM) is a respirable fraction with a diameter of less than the main factors which regulate occupational health status, are:

1. Nature and substance of exposure
2. Intensity or severity of exposure
3. Length of exposure
4. Personal susceptibility

Diesel also produces NO_x that is easily absorbed in the blood and then reduces the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood. It makes the lung tissues brittle and leathery and can cause lung cancer and emphysema (severe breathing problems)¹². At the ITO Crossing, NO₂ is above the standards in one out of every five days¹³. Even more disturbing is the fact that NO_x from diesel

once out in the air forms ozone, yet another harmful gas. Adverse effects of air pollutants on human health can be acute or chronic. Acute effect manifests themselves immediately upon short term exposure to high concentrations of air pollutants whereas chronic effects become evident only after continuous exposure to low levels of pollutants. Pollutants can enter the body through a number of ways. They can cause skin and eye irritation; Particulate matter may be swallowed as a result of respiratory cleansing action. However, the primary mode of transfer of pollutants to the human body is through respiratory system. The slow and steady exposure to toxins present in the environment effect the human body and their toxins creep in to body slowly, sometimes causing lethal diseases and even death. The World Bank has estimated that Indians are spending Rs 4550 crores every year on treatment of diseases caused by ambient air pollution. The present study describe the economic impact due to automobile air pollution linked diseases , Rewa is situated on NH-7, traffic pollution is major sources of air pollution which cause human health diseases .

2. Material And Methodology

The questionnaire based survey was conducted in two road, Sirmour chauk and Bus stand for valuation of health cost due to air pollution. Human population was surveyed for the following aspects.

- Human capital (Earnings foregone due to premature death as a result of exposure to air pollution)
- Cost of illness (expenditures in medicines, doctor fees, lost working days and wages, expenditure in transportation and lodging etc.)

The morbidity cost also includes the expenditures associated to persons actually suffering with air pollution oriented chronic diseases, their admission in nursing homes, and other expenditures after their death. The cost of illness is calculated on the basis of lost wages due to lost working days and additional expenditures towards transportation, purchase of medicines, doctor's fees etc.

3. Result And Discussion

Health Impacts

Observation of traffic pollution impact on human health near Sirmour chauk and Bus stand in Rewa city (M.P.) Taple – 1 and Table-2. Represent the air pollution linked diseases in which percentage of persons suffering from respiratory diseases was found to be maximum on Bus stand 48.73% and 45.24% on Sirmour chauk. Most of the respiratory diseases observed under the present study were silicosis, breathlessness, asthma, bronchitis, cough, burning of mouth and throat and lung cancer. cardiovascular diseases 33.34% on sirmour chauk and 35.91% on bus stand. Gastrointestinal diseases is one of the important air pollution oriented diseases which is observed on both side is 43.07 % and 45.10%. sirmour chauk and Bus stand near both side percentage of skin diseases is higher than other air pollution linked diseases which is 47.60 from sirmour chauk and 52.75% from Bus stand .Eye, ear and teeth diseases is also air pollution linked disease in this survey work Percentage of these diseases noted 29.60% ,23.83% and 20.73% near Sirmour chauk and 33.24% ,31.99% and 25.22% near Bus stand. In this present work we show the percentage of air pollution linked disease is maximum on Bus stand than the Sirmour chauk. Other diseases like malaria, vomiting, anemia, cancer, vitamin deficiency, jaundice, pneumonia etc were reported at both sites. But these are not supposed to be caused by air pollution. Other diseases percentage found at Sirmour chauk 25.08% and at Bus stand 37.17%. Results indicate higher incidence rate of respiratory diseases among the people at Sirmour chauk and Bus stand near road side. Association between air pollution and lung function parameters has already been well documented (Islam and Schlipkoter, 1989;HEL,1995,2000a,2000b; schwela,1996,2000; Schlesinger, 2006;Pope,2000a 2000b; WHO,2000a,2000b). At low level of exposure of SO₂ for 24 hour period (mean annual level below 50 gm) epidemiological studies have demonstrated effect on mortality (total cardiovascular and respiratory) and on hospital emergency admissions for total respiratory causes and chronic pulmonary disease (WHO/EURO, 2000;Schwela, 2000). With respect to morbidity (hospital admission for cardiovascular respiratory diseases) an increase in 502 for long term exposure was significantly associated with an increase in adverse health effects (Schwela,2000). World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that approximately 3 million people die each year due to air pollution in the world (World Bank 2001). According to the WHO, air pollution is responsible for increases in outpatient visits due to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, hospital admissions and mortality.

Human exposure to TRI emissions and to PM_{2.5} can be estimated with the intake fraction, defined as the total potential human dose as a function of total exposure relative to the source term (Bennett, McKone et al. 2001). The intake fraction is multiplied by linear dose response and concentration-response functions of human health hazard for TRI and PM_{2.5} respectively to estimate excess cancer cases and premature mortality (Bennett et al. 2003; Nishioka, Levy et al. 2003). The concentration-response function underlying PM_{2.5} premature mortality predicts annual adverse outcomes due to respiratory ailments and lung cancer that are specific to an emissions year. Thus, 1998 emissions are

associated with 1998 premature deaths. Mineral silicate is an unavoidable constituent of limestone from which lime and cement are processes (Gupta 1994), Silica is not considered carcinogenic, although the risk of lung cancer increases with silica exposure (Cherry et al. 1998). Air pollution's impact on health is very complex as there are many different sources. The individual effects vary from one to another, and it is especially harmful to the young children and the elderly, and those with existing respiratory problems. Children are at risk because their lungs are not fully developed; they breath faster, and they spend lots of time outdoors.

Table -1 Incidence of automobile air pollution oriented diseases among the people near sirmour chauck in Rewa City (M.P.)

S.NO.	Diseases	Male			Female			Total %
		Child	Adult	Old	Child	Adult	Old	
1	Respiratory	6.81	11.81	8.21	5.54	7.54	5.33	45.24
2	Cardiovascular	3.47	6.81	5.00	4.80	7.41	5.85	33.34
3	gastrointestinal	4.61	7.30	9.75	5.12	7.39	8.90	43.07
4	Skin	6.98	7.87	10.32	4.56	9.22	8.65	47.60
5	Eye	3.42	6.8	6.3	2.76	5.98	4.34	29.60
6	ear	2.87	4.43	5.34	2.54	4.89	3.76	23.83
7	Teeth	2.31	4.11	4.96	2.31	3.61	3.43	20.73
8	Other	3.90	3.73	4.68	3.05	5.54	4.18	25.08

Table -2 Incidence of automobile air pollution oriented diseases among the people near Bus stand in Rewa City (M.P.)

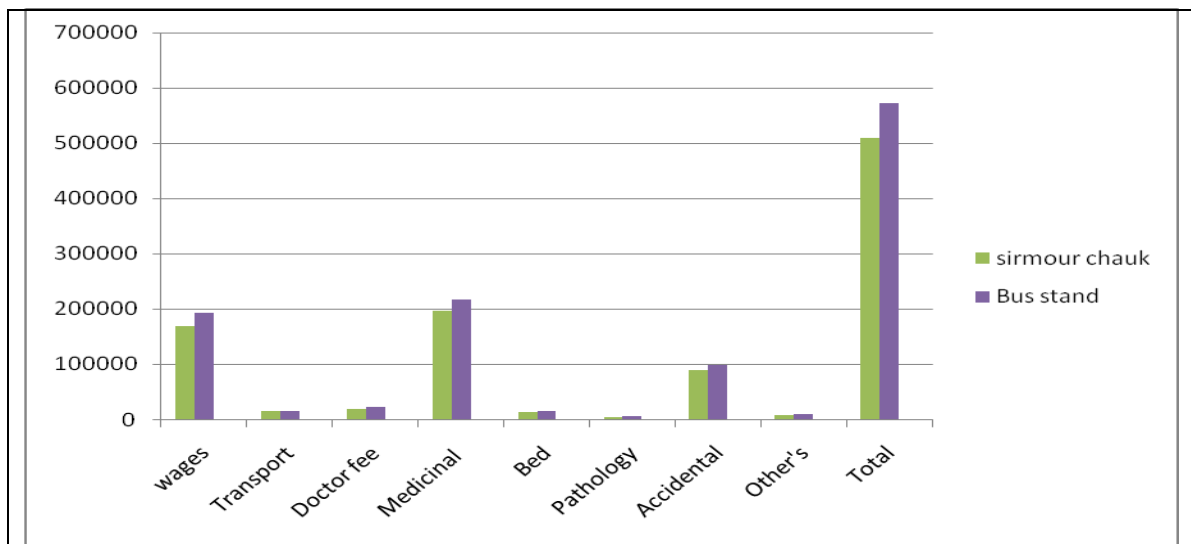
S.NO.	Diseases	Male			Female			Total %
		Child	Adult	Old	Child	Adult	Old	
1	Respiratory	7.21	12.43	8.86	6.32	8.41	5.50	48.73
2	Cardiovascular	3.98	6.51	5.69	5.46	8.67	5.60	35.91
3	gastrointestinal	4.98	7.65	8.79	6.22	7.77	9.69	45.10
4	Skin	7.85	6.87	10.90	6.89	9.71	10.53	52.75
5	Eye	5.05	6.67	8.30	2.66	6.58	3.98	33.24
6	ear	3.87	5.43	7.40	2.61	5.70	6.98	31.99
7	Teeth	3.89	7.01	2.43	2.80	5.66	3.43	25.22
8	Other	5.77	5.81	5.79	3.76	7.53	5.51	37.17

Economic Valuation of Health Impacts

Fig1. Represent the air pollution associated health cost of people at both sides (Sirmour chuk and Bus stand) near traffic pollution. A questionnaire based survey was conducted at sides to collect information on the expenditure made by people, as a result of air pollution, towards cost of illness in which expenditures of medicines 195937 Rs. and 216720 Rs. at both side. Medicinal charge is maximum than other charges. Wages charge 168420 Rs. on Sirmour chauck and 192141 Rs. Bus stand . Transport charge noted on both side is 15370 Rs. And 15588 Rs. Whereas doctor fee, bed charge and pathology is noted on Sirmour chauck is 18630 Rs., 13670Rs. and 2950Rs. and on Bus stand is 21330Rs., 13990 and 4760Rs. Accidental charges on both sites is 87980Rs. and 98765Rs. But other's charges which not include in

these charges is noted 6580 on Sirmour chauk and 8950 on Bus stand. Result indicate the total expenditures is 509537Rs. at Sirmour chauk and 572244 noted on Bus stand. On the all observation we can say Bus stand site is more polluted than Sirmour chauk per year. The world Bank (1997) estimated that air pollution cost china's economy more than 7% of GOP in 1995, largely in health damage. Chinese researches using the risk-dollar trade off method to reveals the implied value of statistical life (Li. Schwartz and Xu. 1998) , the median value of willingness to pay in a sample of 500 for avoiding a death was US dollar 160,000,612. It is estimated that 251 premature deaths, 7.7 million cases of acute and chronic mobility, and 6,589 person-years of restricted activities would have been avoided if Shijizhuang had met the national ambient air quality standards in 2000. Applying the economic valuation number, this implies US dollar 40 million for premature deaths and US dollar 31 million for morbidity. Using incidence rates and survey data Li et al. (1998) estimated the costs of public health associated with air pollution in Shijiazhuang to be 63 million dollar. However, health cost estimate under present investigation is smaller than those of estimate cost of Li et al.(1998) .

Fig.1-Human health based economic loss due to air pollution at both sites in Rewa,(M.P.)



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