

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) There is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of disease exclusively due to air pollution. Air pollution is one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors which include food habits, occupational habits, socio-economic status, medical history, immunity, heredity, etc., of the individuals.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution, which *inter alia* include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time; 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; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for controlling air pollution: installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; notification of Graded Response Action Plan for Delhi and NCR; comprehensive action plan for air pollution control in Delhi and NCR; etc. In addition, the Government has formulated National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long term time-bound pan India strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner and hundred (100) non-attainment cities have also been selected for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP.

Steps taken by State Governments for Climate Protection

†2777. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government had suggested State Governments to take steps, apart from Central policies in implementing action plans regarding climate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the required steps have been taken or are being taken in this regard by State Governments; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(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) Thirty-two States and Union Territories (UTs) have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) in-line with National Action Plan on Climate Change. These SAPCCs seek to mainstream climate change concerns in the planning process at the State level. The SAPCCs enable States to link up and synergise with the eight national missions on climate change viz. National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhancing Energy Efficiency, National Mission for a Green India, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, National Mission on Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change. Projects and activities undertaken by various nodal departments anchoring the missions are generally implemented by the State agencies. States and Union Territories (UTs) are also implementing capacity building programmes for implementation of the SAPCCs.

The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also requested the States to revisit their SAPCCs in context of the Paris Agreement for the post 2020 period.

WHO report on most polluted cities

†2778. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent report of WHO, 14 most polluted cities of the world are in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the report, there has been continuous improvement in the above situation after 2016; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The World Health Organization (WHO) released the WHO Global Ambient Air Quality Database (update 2018) which consists of mainly annual means for PM₁₀ and/or PM_{2.5}, covering more than

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