

**श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) :** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

**श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़):** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

**श्री नीरज डांगी (राजस्थान) :** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा:** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good. This is a very good issue. The Government needs to pay attention towards this issue. Now, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D.P. Vats; जनरल साहब, आपके पास दो मिनट हैं, आप दो मिनट में अपनी बात पूरी कीजिए।

### **NCR becoming the most polluted region in the world**

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.) (Haryana): Hon. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that Delhi has been labelled as the most polluted capital of the world for the third consecutive year. And, the N.C.R. is no way behind. Out of 30 most polluted cities, 22 are in N.C.R. region and most of them are in Haryana and Western U.P. Last year, there was a marginal improvement due to Covid lockdown. But, in totality, efforts have gone up in smoke. Through you, Sir, I request the concerned agencies to take non-populist measures or drastic measures to reduce the pollution so as to save the health of the people of N.C.R. region because there are 54,000 premature deaths in Delhi due to air pollution.

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA SINGH: Sir, I associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Sir, I also associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, I also associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Sir, I also associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, I also associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI: Sir, I also associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव:** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**डा. विकास महात्मे :** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव:** महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi to associate; you have one minute time to speak.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, air pollution constitutes the world biggest environmental health hazard contributing to as many as 7 million premature deaths globally per year, more than three times higher than deaths associated with Covid-19. In 2020, the spread of Covid-19 raised new concerns as exposure to particle pollution was found to increase vulnerability to the virus. And, early report suggests that the proportion of Covid-19 deaths attributed to air pollution exposure ranged from 7 per cent to 33 per cent. It is a matter of serious concern that Delhi has again, or, for the past three years, been declared as the most polluted capital city of the world. Twenty-two cities out of 30 most polluted cities in the world are in our country. Sir, it is extremely concerning that while we should be discussing this, we end up discussing about women wearing ripped jeans and also women being *gair-sanskari*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please come to the topic.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, another point here is that hon. Environment Minister should be speaking about this issue rather than mocking at our concerns about making vaccines available for all. Thank you so much, Sir.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Sir, I associate myself with matter raised by the hon. Member.