

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 514
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2021

Meeting of environment ministers of States

514. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to convene a meeting of all Environment Ministers of States neighbouring the capital Delhi to discuss the issue of pollution arising from stubble burning and take urgent steps to secure the life of citizens; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) and (b)

The issue of air pollution in Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR) arising from stubble burning has been a concern well recognised and to address this, various measures have been taken by the Central Government along with the State Government of Delhi and NCR region including Government of Punjab.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has held more than 12 numbers of consultative and preparedness review meetings with the Central Ministries and State Governments since 14th August, 2021.

The details of the meeting held on September, 23, 2021 with Chief Ministers and Environment Ministers of UT of Delhi and NCR States is given as Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO (a) and (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 514 DUE FOR REPLY ON 2.12.2021 REGARDING 'MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS OF STATES' BY SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Living Document on Initiative/Action taken for containing Stubble Burning in FY 2021-22

Date	Participants	Agenda / Decisions
23-Sept-21	<p>Meeting of Hon'ble Ministers of NCR and Punjab on implementation of action plan for improvement of Air Quality in NCR Region</p> <p>Attendees:Sri. ManoharLalKhattar, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, Sri. SukhramBishnoi, Hon'ble Minister for Forest & Environment, Govt. of Rajasthan, Sri. GopalRai, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Wildlife, Govt. of NCT-Delhi, Sri. Dara Singh Chauhan, Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Environment & Zoological Gardens, Govt. of UP, Secretaries of Central Ministries and State Government, Chairman Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR &AA, Chairman and Member Secretary of Central and State Pollution Control Boards</p>	<p>Agenda: Discussion on the preparedness and to address any issues which requires any inter- State and Inter-ministerial co-ordination for well-coordinated approach towards the concern of poor air pollution apprehended from burning of Parali (Paddy Stubble) during the ensuing harvesting season</p> <p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMEF&CC in his concluding remarks highlighted that the preparatory work informed by the States and CAQM suggests that significant reduction in burning of parali can be achieved in the ensuing season subjected to effective implementation of the action plan. • Efforts of local administration and monitoring mechanism is vital and we all as a team has to continue to work in better co-ordination to achieve success. • Use of newly developed active fire monitoring platform for real time data sharing will help in close monitoring. Wider use of bio-decomposition initiative taken by States (Delhi - 4000 Acres, Punjab – more than 5 lakhs Acres, Haryana – More than 1 Lakh Acres, UP – more than 10 Lakh acres,) reflects the commitment, which is further supported by the initiative towards alternate use of parali as fuel supplement in TPPs, Raw materials for Compressed Bio-Gas Plants and other industries. • This will help in recognizing Parali as resources and provide an opportunity for extra source of income for Farmers. • The CAQM has been constituted with the objective to have Air-Shed approach to improve the air quality of NCR regions and the support and participation from State Governments to CAQM is appreciated and will help in achieving the envisaged objectives.