

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3236**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 31.03.2022

**Action taken on air pollution in Delhi NCR**

3236. DR. AMAR PATNAIK:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on curbing air pollution in Delhi NCR;
- (b) whether Government has contributed funds towards the mitigation of air pollution in the NCR region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any other steps for curbing air pollution in the country

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the funds released to Delhi and NCR region under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and grants under the XV<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission are given at Annexure-I.

(d) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the Central Government for curbing of Air Pollution in the Country are given at Annexure-II.

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**Annexure-I**

<b>City wise details of funds released under NCAP and XV-FC to Delhi and NCR Cities</b> (Fig in ₹ Crore)								
S.N	Name of State	Name of city	Funds released under NCAP				Funds released under XV-FC	Total fund released
			2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Total	2020-21	
1.	Delhi	Delhi	-	-	11.25	11.25	-	11.25
2.	Rajasthan	Alwar	0.06	1.90	-	1.96	-	1.96
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida	-	-	6.67	6.67	-	6.67
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	-	-	-	-	121.00	121.00
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	-	-	-	-	72.00	72.00
6.	Haryana	Faridabad	-	-	-	-	48.00	48.00
	Grand Total		0.06	1.90	17.92	19.88	241.00	260.88

**Measures taken by the Government for Air Quality Management**

**Vehicular Emission**

- Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI norms for fuel and vehicles since April, 2020.
- Network of metro rails for public transport are enhanced and more cities are covered.
- Development of Expressway and Highways are also reducing the fuel consumption and pollution.
- Eastern Peripheral Expressway & Western Peripheral Expressway have been operationalised to divert non destined traffic from Delhi.
- Ban on 10-year-old diesel vehicles and 15-year-old petrol vehicles in Delhi NCR.
- Environment protection charges (EPC) have been imposed on diesel vehicles with engine capacity of 2000cc and above in Delhi NCR.
- Introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like CNG, LPG, ethanol blending in petrol.
- Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) -2 Scheme has been rolled out.
- Permit requirement for electric vehicles has been exempted.
- Promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads.

**Industrial Emission**

- Stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs).
- Ban on use of pet coke and furnace oil in NCR with restricted use of pet coke in cement plants, lime kilns and calcium carbide manufacturing units.
- Shifting of industrial units to PNG.
- Installation of online continuous emission monitoring devices in highly polluting industries.
- Shifting of brick kilns to zig-zag technology for reduction of pollution

**Air Pollution due to dust and burning of waste**

- Notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous waste.
- Setting up infrastructure such as waste processing plants.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for plastic and e-waste management.
- Ban on burning of biomass/garbage.

**Crop Residue/Parali Management**

- Under Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi', agricultural machines and equipment for in-situ crop residue management are promoted with 50% subsidy to the individual farmers and 80% subsidy for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres.
- Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) has been launched as an initiative to set up Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) production plants and make CBG available in the market for use in automotive fuels.

**Ambient Air Quality and Public Outreach**

- Expansion of air quality monitoring network of manual as well as continuous monitoring stations under programmes such as National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP).
- Initiation of pilot projects to assess alternate ambient monitoring technologies such as low-cost sensors and satellite-based monitoring.

- Implementation of Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, Kanpur and Lucknow. The system provides alerts for taking timely actions.
- Public Complaints regarding air pollution issues in Delhi NCR are taken through 'Sameer App', 'Emails'(Aircomplaints.cpcb@gov.in) and 'Social Media Networks' (Facebook and Twitter).

#### **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**

- Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country. City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out for implementation in 132 non-attainment and million plus cities.
- ₹ 423.21 crores have been sanctioned to non-attainment cities under NCAP for initiating actions such as expansion of monitoring network, construction and demolition waste management facilities, non-motorised transport infrastructure, green buffers, mechanical street sweepers, composting units etc.
- As per the Fifteenth Finance commission recommendations ₹4400 crores have been released in the Budget of FY 2020-21 to tackle the problem of air pollution for 42 urban centres with a million-plus population. Further, an amount of ₹12,139 crores has been allocated for improvement of air quality for the award period FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-2026.
- City Specific Action Plans for improvement of air quality has been prepared and approved for implementation.
- Implementation of the city specific action plans are regularly monitored by Committees at Central and State level namely Steering Committee, Monitoring Committee and Implementation Committee.
- PRANA a portal for monitoring implementation of NCAP has been launched.

#### **Steps taken to improve air quality in NCR and adjoining areas**

- The Government has enacted The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 for constituting the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas for better co-ordination, research, identification, and resolution of problems related to air quality in the National Capital Region (NCR) and adjoining areas.
- The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) constituted a sub-committee for operationalization of GRAP and issuing necessary orders to the effect, under which regular meetings are held.

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