

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 987**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 10.02.2022

**Steps to implement NCAP**

987. SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has started National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for better air quality in 122 cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this programme could not be excluded properly in the country; and
- (d) if so, steps Government is taking for its proper implementation?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b):**

Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country. Under NCAP City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out for implementation in 132 non-attainment and million plus cities.

₹ 406.7 crores have been sanctioned to non-attainment cities under NCAP for actions such as expansion of monitoring network, construction and demolition waste management facilities, non-motorized transport infrastructure, green buffers, mechanical street sweepers, composting units etc. Allocation of ₹290 Crores, to cities not covered under Fifteenth Finance Commission grant (out of 132 cities) has been made in FY 2021-22.

Further, as per the Fifteenth Finance Commission recommendations, ₹4400 crores have been released in the Budget of FY 2020-21 and ₹2217 Crores has been allocated in the FY 2021-22 to tackle the air pollution in 42 Urban Agglomerations with million-plus population. Further, an amount of ₹12,139 crores has been allocated for improvement of air quality for the award period FY 2021-26. The steps taken by Government for Air Quality Management is annexed.

**(c) & (d) :**

Under the NCAP there is a robust institutional framework for monitoring the implementation of city action Plans at National level, State level and City/ULB level. At Centre there are 4

committees, Apex committee chaired by Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, National Task Force/ Steering Committee chaired by Secretary MoEF&CC, Monitoring committee chaired by Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC and Implementation Committee being chaired by Chairman CPCB.

At State, there is State Level Steering Committee chaired by Chief Secretary, Monitoring Committee chaired by Principal Secretary Environment and at City level there is implementation & Monitoring committee chaired by District Collector/ Municipal Commissioner. Further, Air Quality Monitoring Cell is also established at City level for effective implementation of City Action Plans.

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## Measures taken by the Government for Air Quality Management

### Vehicular emissions

- 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 operationalized 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 emissions

- 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.

### Monitoring of ambient air quality

- 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).

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

- **A Commission on Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM)** has been constituted by enactment of an Act by Parliament for better co-ordination, research, identification and resolution of problems surrounding the air quality index and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
- 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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