

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 3417
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018

Action plan for mapping air pollutants

3417. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to prepare a plan for mapping the sources of air pollution in Delhi and other important towns and cities across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that an action plan is proposed and implemented with urgency and stringency and in a time-bound manner, can help make sustained improvement in air quality; and
- (d) whether many towns and cities across the country need to reduce particulate pollution by at least 74 per cent to meet clear air standards?

ANSWER

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

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) & (b) Several studies have been conducted to identify major air pollution sources and their contributions to ambient air pollution levels in the country. The source apportionment study conducted by CPCB during the year 2011 for cities of Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Kanpur, Mumbai and Pune identified road dust suspension, construction, biomass burning as some of the major sources of pollution. Subsequently, a study was conducted by Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur during the year 2016 for Delhi to map identify major air pollution sources in NCT of Delhi which identifies major sources of air pollution such as secondary particulates, biomass burning, vehicular emissions, road dust etc.
- (c) & (d) The government has formulated the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long term time bound national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in comprehensive manner. Hundred (100) non-attainment cities have been selected for implementation of NCAP. These non- attainment cities have been identified by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on the basis of ambient air quality data obtained (2011-2015) under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)

and in which the prescribed National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are violated continuously for five years. Further, different towns shall require different levels of reduction to meet the NAAQS. Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) with clearly identified graded measures and implementing agencies was notified on January 12, 2017, for air pollution control in Delhi NCR. In addition, a Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) for air pollution control in Delhi & NCR is also developed, which identifies timelines and implementing agency for source specific actions. The finalized action points were notified vide Direction under Section 3 and 5 of Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 on January 25, 2018 and March 06, 2018 for strict implementation by concerned agencies.
