

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1499
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

Amendments in National Clean Air Programme

1499. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether Government has amended the National Clean Air Programme recently, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the current version of the Programme lacks time-bound targets for the involved cities and States;
- (c) if so, reasons therefor and the method by which Government will keep the participating agencies accountable for success of the Programme;
- (d) whether any studies have been undertaken as a part of the Programme, to account for all the sources of pollution, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and other initiatives taken to curb air pollution?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) In order to address the increasing air pollution across the country in a comprehensive manner, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has recently finalized the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) as a pan India time bound national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner on the basis of extensive stakeholder consultation.

(b) & (c) Taking into account the available international experiences and national scientific and technical studies, mid-term target for reduction of PM2.5 and PM10 concentration by 2024 forms an integral component of the NCAP. Institutional Framework at Centre and State Level are part of NCAP for its effective implementation and for ensuring agencies accountability for success of the Programme.

(d) & (e) Various international and national experiences and studies have been taken into account for identification of sources of the pollution with respect to NCAP. Some of which are referred in NCAP include IIT-Kanpur Study of 2016, 'Comprehensive Study on Air Pollution and Green House Gases (GHGs) in Delhi' and TERI and Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) study of 2018, 'Source Apportionment of PM2.5 & PM10 of Delhi NCR for Identification of Major Sources'.

The initiatives taken/being taken by the Government to curb the air pollution and improve the air quality *inter alia*, include notification of Graded Response Action Plan for different

levels of air pollution in Delhi and NCR; notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; universalization of BS-IV from 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; notifications regarding 'Mandatory Implementation of Dust Mitigation Measures for all Construction and Demolition Activities'; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, etc.
