

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYASABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.977
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

Regulation of emission in Indo-Gangetic plain

977. SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) the extent to which State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) have been successful to regulate emissions from industries and power plants in the Indo-Gangetic plain, the details thereof;
- (b) efforts by SPCBs to guide cities toward meeting targets, the details thereof;
- (c) States where the SPCB's are critically understaffed, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Central Government is monitoring this particularly for the States of Bihar and Haryana?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The Central Government has notified industry-specific emission and effluent standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are the regulatory bodies authorized to regulate and ensure the compliance of environmental standards by industries under their jurisdiction, including emission from industries and power plants in the country including Indo-Gangetic plain. SPCBs regulate the compliance of environmental standards in their states through Consent mechanism. Further, Online Continuous Emission and Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) have been installed in 17 categories of highly polluting industries, including power plants, for 24×7 monitoring of compliance of environmental parameters, which are connected with SPCBs' and Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) servers. Physical inspections of industries are also done by SPCBs periodically to check their compliance status.

Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels in cities across the country. Non-attainment cities have been identified based on ambient air quality levels exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out for implementation in 131 non-attainment and million plus cities including cities of Bihar (Patna, Gaya and Muzzafarpur) and Haryana (Faridabad).

The city specific clean air action plans target air pollution sources like Soil and Road Dust, Vehicles, Domestic Fuel, Municipal Solid Waste Burning, Construction Material and

Industries with short-term priority action as well as long term action plans. Besides source specific actions, Greening, Creation of Green buffer, E-mobility, Conversion of industries in clean fuel, Solid waste management etc. are also part of city action plans. Further, under NCAP, Committees at State level namely Steering Committee headed by Chief Secretary of the State; Monitoring Committee headed by Principal Secretary (Environment) of the State Government; and Implementation Committee headed by either District Magistrate or Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation have been constituted for implementation and monitoring of the city specific action plans to reduce air pollution.

CPCB conducted Performance Audit of the SPCBs/PCCs on issues such as adequacy with regard to environmental monitoring, efficacy of regulatory setup / mechanisms, staffing both technical and scientific manpower, scientific equipments, logistics support, competence, etc during 2019-20 based on Hon'ble NGT Directions. It was observed that total sanctioned post to SPCBs / PCCs are 9438 covering Group-A(1749), Group B(2629) and Group-C (5060) and about 46% of these posts are vacant. State wise details of Group A sanctioned and vacant positions in SPCBs / PCCs is given at **Annexure-I**.

Annexure-I

State wise details of Group A sanctioned and vacant positions in SPCBs / PCCs.

SPCBs and PCCs - Group-A Staff details									
Name of the SPCBs / PCCs	Scientific		Technical		Admin. Staff		Total		
	Sanctioned	In Place	Sanctioned	In Place	Sanctioned	In Place	Sanctioned	In Place	Vacancy
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Andhra Pradesh	4	3	17	17	2	0	23	20	3
Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	2	2	1	1	5	5	0
Assam	28	24	64	54	10	2	102	80	22
Bihar	6	1	13	4	4	2	23	7	16
Chandigarh	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1
Chhattisgarh	10	7	19	10	2	1	31	18	13
D.D&DH	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	0
Delhi	10	2	81	26	5	1	96	29	67
Goa	7	5	5	1	0	0	12	6	6
Gujarat	20	13	40	31	5	1	65	45	20
Haryana	8	2	26	12	1	1	35	15	20
Himachal Pradesh	33	14	19	11	9	5	61	30	31
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0
Jharkhand	1	0	10	0	0	0	11	0	11
Karnataka	21	11	126	93	0	0	147	104	43
Kerala	5	4	28	28	0	0	33	32	1
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	132	59	127	34	55	15	314	108	206
Maharashtra	13	8	76	68	14	7	103	83	20
Manipur	2	1	2	1	2	1	6	3	3
Meghalaya	9	4	10	9	5	2	24	15	9
Mizoram	1	1	2	2	0	0	3	3	0
Nagaland	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	0
Odisha	44	26	33	20	5	3	82	49	33
Puducherry	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Punjab	19	11	132	107	14	6	165	124	41
Rajasthan	19	11	60	48	10	4	89	63	26
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0
Tamil Nadu	13	9	69	64	5	4	87	77	10
Telangana	4	3	13	9	3	1	20	13	7
Tripura	2	2	4	3	0	0	6	5	1
Uttar Pradesh	21	18	28	27	6	1	55	46	9
Uttarakhand	6	2	6	4	0	0	12	6	6
West Bengal	27	23	77	54	23	19	127	96	31
Total	471	269	1,092	741	186	82	1,749	1,092	657