

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1804**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

**Performance-based grants to control air pollution**

1804. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of performance-based grants that have been given to the State of Andhra Pradesh pursuant to the recommendations of 15th Finance Commission for improvement of air quality; and
- (b) the details of the steps taken by Government to improve air quality in the various districts of Andhra Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

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

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

The amount of Rs. 253.6 crore have been provided to Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam cities of Andhra Pradesh under the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Air Quality Performance Grant during FY 2020-21 till 2022-23 to take measures to improve air quality in respective cities. Details of year-wise funds released to these cities is enclosed at **Annexure-1**.

Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in January, 2019, with an objective to improve air quality in Non-attainment cities. It is a time-bound, national level strategy for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in 131 cities across 24 States.

13 Non-attainment cities in Andhra Pradesh where ambient air quality levels exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for five consecutive years, have been covered under the Programme to achieve reduction of Particulate Matter 10 (PM10) concentrations upto 40% or achieve NAAQS by 2025-26.

The amount of Rs.311.28 crore have been released during FY 2019-20 till FY 2022-23 to 13 non-attainment cities of Andhra Pradesh for taking air quality improvement measures in respective cities.

State Action Plan and City Action Plans for 13 cities have been prepared for taking measures to improve air quality which include mobilisation of resources from convergence of Union and State Government schemes. These cities have been prescribed annual targets for reduction in PM10 concentrations.

State level Steering Committee under the chairpersonship of Chief Secretary, Monitoring Committee under the chairpersonship of Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, City level Implementation Committee under chairpersonship of District Magistrate have been constituted for periodical reviewing, monitoring and implementing the State and City Action Plans to achieve the objectives of NCAP.

Ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up in 20 cities of Andhra Pradesh for regular monitoring of various environmental parameters. MoEFCC provided funds to Andhra Pradesh for air quality monitoring, organising capacity building and public outreach programmes and engaging Institutes of Repute (IoR) for monitoring clean air action plans.

Further, implementation of Clean Air Action Plans, functioning of committees and various activities mandated under NCAP are monitored through online portal “PRANA: Portal for Regulation of Air Pollution in Non-attainment cities”.

\*\*\*

**Annexure-1: Details of funds released to Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam under 15<sup>th</sup>  
Finance Air Quality Performance Grants**

City	Amount in Rs. crore			
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
Vijayawada	62	38.35	24	124.35
Visakhapatnam	73	27.75	28.50	129.25
Total	135	66.1	52.5	253.6