

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 196**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023

**Impact of indoor air pollution on health of children**

\*196. DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that indoor air pollution has been identified as one of the major contributors of pneumonia, which has been pegged as one of the major causes of child mortality in the country at 17.1 per cent in the year 2021 and accounts for 45 per cent pneumonia deaths in children below the age of five;
- (b) whether proper mechanisms have been put in place by the Ministry to monitor the level of indoor air pollution; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARA (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.196 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023 RAISED BY DR. FAUZIA KHAN TITLED “IMPACT OF INDOOR AIR POLLUTION ON HEALTH OF CHILDREN”**

**(a):**

No. Report published by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not establish any correlation between indoor air pollution and the 17.1% of child mortalities caused by pneumonia.

**(b) and (c):**

A Joint Committee comprising experts from CPCB, ICMR, representatives of concerned ministries has been formed to develop guidelines for indoor air quality management to address air pollution from number of pollutants commonly present in indoor air. The committee has recommended adoption of interim guidelines for indoor air quality management in public places which include hospitals, educational institutions, hotels (restaurants), convention centres, airports, malls, cinema halls, auditoriums, museums, gyms for ensuring adequate ventilation, control of indoor air pollution sources and installation of air cleaning systems.

Usage of traditional cooking fuels has adverse impacts on the health of rural women as well as on the environment. In May 2016, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG), introduced the ‘Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana’ (PMUY) as a flagship scheme with an objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to the rural and deprived households which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as firewood, coal, cow-dung cakes, etc.

A total of 9.94 Crores LPG connections have been released so far under the Scheme. Authentication for additional 5.52 lakh connections was completed. With this, total connections of 10 crore target has been achieved. Special facility is provided to migrant households under the scheme.

Further, to address air pollution in urban areas, National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) was launched in January, 2019 which is a long-term, time-bound national level strategy for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution. The programme covers 131 cities, wherein funds are provided to respective cities to implement City Action Plan (CAP) for improvement of air quality. Under NCAP, it has been envisaged to achieve target of 20 to 30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations by 2024 in 131 cities of 24 States/UTs with respect to base year 2017. Subsequently, the target has been revised to achieve up to 40% reduction or achieve National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in terms of PM concentrations by 2025-26.

\*\*\*\*\*