

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1967
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

Targets set for reducing air pollution

1967. SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:
SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:
DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

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

- (a) the details of the steps being taken by the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to improve air quality, State-wise, including Delhi NCR and adjoining areas; and;
- (b) the details of targets set for the above purpose?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) and (b):

With a view to abate and control air pollution in Delhi / NCR, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM), constituted in 2021, has devised a comprehensive policy for abatement of pollution in NCR in July 2022. The policy framework details sector-wise interventions, quantified targets, timelines and implementation plan by various agencies for various sectors viz. Vehicular Pollution, Industrial Pollution, Dust from Construction and Demolition Project activities, Dust from Roads and Open Areas, Biomass Burning, Agricultural Stubble Burning, Municipal Solid Waste burning, Fires in Sanitary Landfills and Air pollution from various dispersed sources etc. CAQM has so far issued **81** statutory directions and **14** advisories covering all sectors specifying timelines and targets on individual sectors, besides executive orders to various agencies concerned in the NCR states including State Governments of Punjab, GNCTD, and various bodies of the Central and State Governments in the region to prevent, control and abate air pollution.

The steps taken by CAQM for air pollution abatement in Delhi NCR and adjoining areas, is provided at **Annexure I**.

Progress on the identified actions as also the targeted timelines are periodically monitored by CAQM during the Review meetings, including reports from the various agencies concerned.

Annexure I

Steps taken by the CAQM for air pollution abatement in Delhi NCR

1. Monitoring and enforcement of regulated use of DG sets in Delhi-NCR, only with stipulated emission control devices/systems, as per CAQM's Direction No. 76 dated 29.09.2023 read with addendum dated 22.02.2024. Constant vigil on use of only approved fuels in Delhi-NCR across all sectors, including monitoring & enforcement of compliance of emission norms through inspections and monitoring by CPCB and NCR State PCBs/ DPCC.
2. Availability of PNG connectivity in all the 240 industrial areas in NCR. Presently, 217 industrial areas have PNG connectivity. CAQM in association with MoPNG regularly reviews the progress in PNG infrastructure/supply in the remaining 23 industrial areas, which is also likely to be completed by end of 2024.
3. Implementation of CAQM's Direction No. 78 dated 19.10.2023 for migration of public transport services especially intercity bus services, to Delhi-NCR, to cleaner modes.
4. Completely phasing out diesel auto-rickshaws from the districts of Faridabad, Gurugram, Ghaziabad and GB Nagar latest by 31.12.2024 and to ensure plying of only CNG/ E-Auto in such areas.
5. CAQM's Direction No. 79 dated 13.02.2024 was issued to all agencies for issuance of completion certificates / occupancy certificates for C&D projects only after ensuring that no closure order has been issued or in force for the site so as to ensure compliance of dust control/ abatement measures.
6. CAQM's Advisory No. 12 dated 14.02.2024 has been issued to all Municipal bodies/ ULBs and all related departments / bodies of the NCR State Govts. / NCT of Delhi to ensure that all prescribed measures towards effective mitigation of dust from C&D projects, which are highly vulnerable to the dust emissions, are incorporated in all the contract documents, agreements etc., including in road construction and maintenance projects.
7. Strict implementation of directions related to mandatory registration of construction / demolition projects on plot area >500 sq mtr. on the respective web-portal of the NCR State, besides deployment of anti-smog guns in proportion to the site/area. Punitive measures, including closure directions for non-compliances in this regard.
8. CAQM has deputed 40 teams of CPCB officers since December 2021 to conduct incognito inspections of air-polluting industries, C&D sites, DG sets in Delhi-NCR to check the implementation status of pollution control measures and compliance of other provisions of the Air (P&CP) Act, 1981. A total of 17824 units/ entities/ projects have been inspected. Based on these inspections, CAQM has issued Closure Directions in 977 cases and out of these resumption orders have been issued in 769 cases while 116 cases are still under closure and cases of 92 balance units have been transferred to SPCBs / DPCC for final decision
9. Since October 2023, Flying Squads are conducting inspection of DG sets in Commercial/Industrial/Residential areas in compliance of CAQM Direction no. 76. As on 07.06.2024, directions for sealing of DG-Sets have been issued for 390 entities against a total of 602 DG sets.