

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 923  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2024**

**DEATHS DUE TO POLLUTION IN THE COUNTRY**

**923. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH:**

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has any statistics of deaths due to polluted air in the country, if so, State-wise details for the last five years;
- (b) the cities in the country where the air is not breathable, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to clean the polluted air?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

- (a) Air pollution is one of the aggravating factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases, however, there are no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of death/disease exclusively due to air pollution. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors which include food habits, occupational habits, socioeconomic status, medical history, immunity and heredity etc. of the individuals.
- (b) A list of cities (State-wise) where air quality does not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards can be accessed at the link <https://cpcb.nic.in/manual-monitoring/>.
- (c) Government of India has taken several steps to address air pollution issues. These include:
  - i. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to safeguard the health of women & children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG).
  - ii. Swachh Bharat Mission to clean up streets, roads and infrastructure of India's cities, smaller towns, and rural areas. Swachh Hawa is an integral component of Swachh Bharat.
  - iii. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched National Clean Air program in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country.
  - iv. MOHFW has launched National Program on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH) at National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), with objective to create awareness, capacity building, health sector preparedness and response and partnerships related activities on the climate sensitive health issues in the country

since 2019. Now the Programme has expanded in all the State/UTs and activities are conducted in the form of training on Climate Sensitive Diseases, Surveillance on Acute Respiratory Illnesses and Heat related Illnesses, generation & dissemination of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) on Air Pollution & Heat and its health impacts on health which include children. Further, guidelines on 'Air Pollution and its Impact on Children's Health' have been developed in both Hindi and English under National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health in 2020 and shared with States for implementation.

- v. NCDC under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issues health advisory every year to the States/UTs to address health concern of the masses including that of children. Several workshops and trainings have been conducted for community level health workers on air pollution and its health impact on children's health.

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