GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1158
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

Acid rain

1158. MS. DOLA SEN:

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

(a) whether Government has data regarding the frequency of acid rain occurrences in the country in the last three years;
(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether Government has taken any specific action for the cities where acid rain is more frequent; and
(d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to **(d)**

The prime reason of acid rain is the presence of pollutants like Sulfur dioxide (SO_2), and Nitrogen oxides (NO_2) in air due to natural as well as anthropogenic activities. The annual average concentration of NO_2 & SO_2 in India during last five years reveals that NO_2 (Annual Standard: 40 $\mu g/m^3$) & SO_2 (Annual Standard: 50 $\mu g/m^3$) are well within National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in most of the cites as detailed in **Annexure l**. Additionally, there is no incident of acid rain reported in last three years.

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Annexure - I

Number of Cities within & Exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) with respect to SO_2 & NO_2 – 2019 to 2023

Exceeding or within Standard	**Number of cities & parameters**	
	SO_2	**NO_2**
	2023 (Integrated Data)	
Within NAAQS	490	473
Exceeding NAAQS	2	20
	2022 (Integrated Data)	
Within NAAQS	428	396
Exceeding NAAQS	2	34
	2021 (Integrated Data)	
Within NAAQS	379	362
Exceeding NAAQS	1	20
	2020 (Integrated Data)	
Within NAAQS	350	333
Exceeding NAAQS	1	19
	2019 (Manual Data)	
Within NAAQS	**313**	285
Exceeding NAAQS	1	30

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