GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1661 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2024

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AIR POLLUTION

1661. SHRI RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA:

Will the **MINISTER OF FINANCE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has evaluated the long-term economic impact of air pollution, particularly on foreign investments in services and start-ups in Delhi-NCR and neighbouring States, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of severe smog in Northern India on industrial output, supply chain delays, and worker efficiency, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): The Government has not conducted any specific study to evaluate the long-term economic impact of air pollution in Delhi-NCR and neighbouring States or to quantify the impact of severe smog in Northern India on industrial output and supply chain delays. However, during Severe (AQI ranging between 401 – 400) and Severe + (AQI>450) episodic high pollution situations, Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) - Stage III and Stage IV are enforced. Under GRAP III & IV, construction & demolition activities, operation of stone crushers, mining & associated activities, plying of BS III and BS IV Light Motor Vehicle & Light Commercial and Medium Vehicles carrying goods, and entry of trucks are restricted.
