GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1329
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

Air Quality Monitoring in Urban Maharashtra

1329. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

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

(a) whether Government has assessed the worsening air quality in Maharashtra's urban centers like Mumbai and Pune, where rapid urbanization contributes to high particulate matter levels.
(b) if so, the details of air quality monitoring systems and pollution control measures implemented under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in these cities, and
(c) the timeline and specific actions proposed to reduce air pollution and meet WHO air quality standards in Maharashtra's urban areas?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) launched by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in January 2019 aims to improve air quality in 130 cities (non-attainment cities and Million Plus Cities) in 24 States/UTs. NCAP is a multi-sectoral initiative involving the coordinated efforts of the Central and State Governments, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), and other stakeholders. It emphasizes source-specific mitigation measures through implementation of city, state, and national-level clean air action plans.

As Mumbai and Pune cities of Maharashtra State are non-attainment cities, these urban agglomerations have been included under NCAP for taking air quality improvement measures. Both the Million-plus population cities are funded under XVth Finance Commission Million Plus City Challenge Fund (MPCCF).

An amount of ₹ 952.14 crore and ₹ 271.3 crore has been provided till date to Mumbai and Pune Urban Agglomerations for implementing air quality improvement measures through city action plans.

Both the cities have prepared city action plans and have constituted city level implementation committees for monitoring and implementation of city action plans periodically.

Details of air pollution control measures implemented and air quality monitoring systems set up in Mumbai and Pune are enclosed at **Annexure I.**

World Health Organization's Global Air Quality Guidelines (2021) serve as a non-binding reference for policy makers. Countries are advised to consider their unique socioeconomic and environmental contexts before adopting these guidelines as enforceable standards. In India, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for 12 air pollutants in November, 2009 to safeguard public health and environmental quality.

Under NCAP, 19 targeted cities of Maharashtra have prepared action plans for FY 2025-26 addressing key air quality improvement measures and details are enclosed at **Annexure II.**

Air quality improvement achieved by Mumbai and Pune Urban Agglomerations is enclosed at **Annexure III**.

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Annexure I

Air quality improvement measures undertaken and monitoring systems set up in Mumbai Urban Agglomeration

- 61 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations have been set up
- End-to-End paving of roads (23.06 km.)
- Mechanical Road Sweeping for 300 km/day
- Installation of conventional traffic signals at junctions (5 junctions)
- Transition to electric and PNG/CNG based crematoriums (17 locations)
- Construction of CNG based Animal Incineration Facility (1 no.)
- Deployment of electric buses (1075 nos; 1025 Single-decker electric buses & 50 Double-decker electric buses)
- Installation of modular domestic hazardous waste (DHW) disposal units using plasma technology (8 nos.)
- Outdoor Dust Mitigation Units (ODMU) and Dust Monitoring Systems (DMS) (5 locations)
- Greening initiatives across open spaces, gardens, schools, housing societies, and community areas
- Retrofitting of emission control devices for diesel generator sets (100 nos.)
- Development of vertical gardens at various location (7,100 sq. mt.)
- Dust control measures (21 Junctions)
- Installation of Electric Charging Station for Electric Vehicles (1 no)
- Public awareness campaigns and capacity-building programs

Air quality improvement measures undertaken and monitoring systems set up in Pune City

- 20 Ambient Air Quality Monitori`ng Stations have been set up
- Mechanical Road Sweeping for 100 km per day
- Water sprinkling measures for dust control on roads (50 km per day)
- Creation of cycle tracks (27 km)
- Establishment of electric crematorium (4 nos.)
- Air pollution control devices for wood fired crematoriums (14 locations)
- Creation of green buffers along traffic corridors (2 locations)
- Green area development (1 km)
- Construction & Demolition waste collection system (in 3 wards)
- Electric charging stations at PMPML E- bus depot
- Carcass incinerator (2 nos.)
- CNG waste collection vehicles (81 number; 227 cubic meters)
- EV/CNG vehicles for solid waste management (10 nos., 200 Tonnes per day)
- Procurement subsidy support of E buses for public transport (21 nos.)
- Subsidies for electric auto-rickshaws (78 nos.)
- Installation of air pollution control system at hot mix plant (1 no.)
- Installation of solar water heater in slum area (13 no.)
- Purchase of movable fog cannon machines (5 no.) and stationery fog cannon (8 nos.) to suppress dust on high-emission road stretches

- Deployment of IEC vehicles (1 no.) and organization of public awareness campaigns on air pollution and mitigation strategies
- Installation of Air purification system (9 nos.)
- Installation of road washer vehicles (8 nos.)
- Development of domestic hazardous treatment plants 4 TPD each
- Development C&D waste processing plant of 200 TPD,
- Installation of Atomizer based mist fountains (21 nos.)
- Public awareness campaigns and capacity-building programs

Annexure II

Air quality Improvement measures as part of annual action plan FY2025-26 in 19 cities of Maharashtra under NCAP

S.No.	Key Activities	Components	Quantity
1	Road improvement works for dust control	End to end paving of roads	1,315 km
		Greenery development	11 acres
		Mechanical road sweeping	2,444 km
		Maintaining Pothole free road	2024 sq. km
2	Development of Green Spaces	Greening of open areas	1,318 acres
		Traffic corridors greenery	83 km
		Development of mini forests	14 acres
3	Improvement of traffic junctions for decongestion	Improvement of traffic junctions for decongestion	104 nos.
4	Air pollution control measures in crematoriums	Conversion to cleaner fuels	68 nos.
		Installation of air pollution control devices	14 nos.
5	Involvement of schools and colleges for mass awareness and public outreach and also through 'MY Bharat'	No. of events targeted	20,649 nos.

Annexure III

Air quality Improvement in Mumbai and Pune Urban Agglomerations

(i) PM10 levels

S.No.	City	FY 2017-18 ($\mu g/m^3$)	FY 2024-25 ($\mu g/m^3$)	Improvement in FY 2024-25 w.r.t. FY 2017-18(%)
Mumbai Urban Agglomeration				
1	Greater Mumbai	161	90	44
2	Badlapur	160	114	29
3	Ulhasnagar	153	107	30
4	Thane	138	84	39
5	Navi Mumbai	88	85	3
Pune Urban Agglomeration				
6	Pune	102	93	9

(ii) Good Air Quality days

S.No.	City	Good Air quality days in 2024-25 (AQI<200)
1	Greater Mumbai	364 days
2	Pune	363 days