

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2131
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2025

Deaths due to air pollution

2131. SHRI RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the number of deaths due to air pollution nationwide during the last five years and if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware of an international study estimating about 17 lakh air- pollution-related deaths in 2022 and if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken to reduce mortality from ambient and household air pollution, including measures under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): There is no conclusive data available to establish a direct correlation of death exclusively by 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.

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 non-attainment and Million-Plus Cities in 24 States/UTs through a comprehensive, integrated and collaborative approach involving the coordinated efforts of the Central and State Governments, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and other stakeholders.

It emphasizes source-specific mitigation measures through the implementation of city, state, and national-level Clean Air Action Plans. State Action Plans have been prepared by all 24 States/UTs. Also, all 130 cities under the NCAP have prepared a Clean Air Action Plan (CAP) based on local factors. These plans focus on sectoral interventions such as road dust control, solid waste management, vehicular emissions, construction and demolition activities and industrial pollution. Annual Action Plans are prepared for implementation of activities prioritized on key pollution sources and availability of resources. Also, relevant Mission LiFE activities in respect of air quality

management have been integrated in State and City Action Plans to promote the activities nudging the individuals to adopt environment-friendly lifestyles.

Citizen awareness programmes have been conducted by all 130 cities sensitizing the causes and need for reducing air pollution. Youth involvement in the awareness and public outreach activities has been ensured through 'Meri Yuva Bharat' portal of Department of Youth Affairs.

A centralised air quality portal and mobile app-SAMEER is functional for tracking and dissemination of near real time air quality data and hourly Air Quality Index to the public. CPCB issues a daily bulletin at 04:00 PM comprising AQI of various cities in the country. SAMEER app also serves as a grievance redressal mechanism which allows the citizens to report pollution related complaints for quick resolution by the concerned agencies.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched in May, 2016 with an objective to provide deposit free LPG connection to adult women for poor households across the country. As on 01.11.2025, there were about 10.33 crore PMUY connections across the country. It is one of the convergence scheme in NCAP that contributes for mitigation of air pollution through reduction of emission from household.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued Health Advisory on Air Pollution to all States /UTs to support various actions for awareness generation and health system response. The details of the said advisory is available in public domain in the web site of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Further, States/UTs also issue public health advisory on air pollution related health matters every year and create awareness on the Do's and Don'ts to minimise, protect and prevent on the health impacts related to air pollution.
