

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

Awareness regarding Air Pollution

1370. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

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

- (a) the reasons that India has maximum number of cities in list of cities having highest pollution levels;
- (b) the steps taken and money spent in order to solve this problem;
- (c) whether the Government initiated any special schemes to make people aware about the health issues and their precautions arising due to air pollution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) India has one of the largest urban systems in the world, with many cities located in agro-climatic zones which have high levels of particulate matter due to natural reasons such as Gangetic plains. India is also home to over 16% of global population, though it has only 2.5% of the geographical area of the world. Due to these reasons India has a large number of cities that do not meet norms related to air quality standards. Further, the methodology for assessment of pollution in various parts of world is not same. Countries can be ranked on the basis of different criteria pollutants with different results. As such it is difficult to compare different countries since they differ in their various characteristics.
- (b) The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution which inter alia, include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; universalization of BS-IV by 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring

devices by major industries, etc. Abatement of pollution is largely the responsibility of State Governments, local bodies, agencies of the State Governments and industrial units. The Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments, etc. Government provides funds to CPCB for its various activities, including air pollution mitigation efforts. **The details of the funds provided by government to CPCB is at Annexure I.** State-wise details of funds released to various Monitoring Agencies during last three years and current year for ambient air quality monitoring as operational and maintenance cost under **National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) is given at Annexure-II.**

- (c) & (d) National Air Quality Index (NAQI) has been launched, which classifies air quality into good, satisfactory, moderate, poor, very poor, and severe categories. Government has also undertaken a number of awareness building programs to highlight the issue of air pollution. Ministry launched campaigns such as 'Harit Diwali and Swasth Diwali' and 'Swachh Hawa for Swachh and Swasth Bharat' covering over two lakh schools in the country.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1370 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.12.2017 REGARDING " AWARENESS ON AIR POLLUTION " RAISED BY SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
ANNEXURE I

Releases of Grant from the Government to CPCB last 3 years and current year

(fig in ₹ in crore)

Financial Year	Released to CPCB
2014-15	60.10
2015-16	66.5
2016-17	88.19 Crore
2017-18 (till November 2017)	70.3 Crore

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Annexure-II

Details of Payment Released to Various Monitoring Agencies under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) (figs in ₹)

S.No.	Name of Monitoring Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 till Dec 2017
1.	Andhra Pradesh SPCB	7666250	-	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh SPCB	-	-	-	3005334
3.	Assam SPCB	7842500	-	-	11208000
4.	Chandigarh PCC	-	-	4113833	
5.	Chattisgarh ECB	-	1526250	-	
6.	Gujarat SPCB	-	-	-	
7.	Goa SPCB	7125000	7789333	-	
8.	Himachal Pradesh SEP & PCB	-	10128333	-	
9.	Karnataka SPCB	354167	6749583	-	
10.	Kerala SPCB	6474167	-	-	
11.	Maharashtra SPCB	-	-	16316919	
12.	Meghalaya SPCB	-	7845833	-	9173333
13.	Madhya Pradesh SPCB	-	-	7984417	
14.	Mizoram SPCB	1765000	5413333	4253333	2706667
15.	Nagaland SPCB	906667	-	3658667	1717333
16.	Orissa SPCB	5734583	-	5872500	
17.	Punjab SPCB	7795417	-	-	
18.	Puducherry	-	-	5110333	
19.	Rajasthan SPCB	-	4218750	-	
20.	Tamil Nadu SPCB	2358333	-	-	
21.	Uttar Pradesh SPCB	-	7263333	-	
22.	Uttarakhand EP&PCB	-	4085833	-	
23.	NEERI	7047000	13612000	22288000	21600000
24.	IIT Kanpur	3709378	-	-	3709378
	Total =	58778462	68632581	69598002	53120045

Note:- SPCB – State Pollution Control Board, SEP&PCB – State Environment Protection & Pollution Control Board, EP& PCB – Environment Protection & Pollution Control Board, PCC – Pollution Control Committee. NEERI is at present monitoring in 6 cities in 5 different states/Union territories namely Delhi, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.