GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3941 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2019

Dust Pollution by Cement Plants

3941. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that health of citizens of Satna City of Madhya Pradesh is adversely affected due to dust pollution caused by cement plants in and around the District;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and details of complaints lodged against cement industries along with the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has not taken any step to address dust and air pollution by installation of online continuous (24x7) monitoring devices and Deployment and Evaluation of air purification units and Air Purifying Unit devices to tackle dust pollution and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take concrete measures including the launching of any pilot projects to tackle dust pollution in the District Satna and 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)& (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) monitors the ambient air quality across the country under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). There are two stations operating in Satna city of Madhya Pradesh. There is no conclusive data available about adverse impacts owing to dust pollution of cement industries in Satna city. Also, no complaint against cement industries of Satna city, M.P. has been received by the CPCB in last two years. Air pollution is one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors which include food habits, occupational habits, socio-economic status, medical history, immunity, heredity, etc., of the individuals.
- (c) & (d) According to CPCB, 136 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) are connected to CPCB server and it covers 72 cities across the country. The CAAQMS network is strengthened to cover all the 46 million plus cities and state capitals. Presently one CAAQMS is operating in Satna city. Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit (WAYU) have been installed under pilot project for control of pollution at traffic interaction in Delhi.

The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution, which inter alia include issuance of notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time; 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; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards; notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of biomass burning; 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 for controlling air pollution; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; notification of Graded Response Action Plan for Delhi and NCR; comprehensive action plan for air pollution control in Delhi and NCR. The Government has formulated National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long term time bound pan India strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. Hundred (100) non-attainment cities have been selected for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP. In addition, the NCAP has many additional peripheral components such as, Technical Assessment Cell, technology support, sharing of international best practices, awareness and capacity building, source apportionment studies, plantation drive, intensive inspection drive etc. to support the time bound implementation of NCAP.
