GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 763 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2018

Implementation of National Clean Air Programme

763. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is implementing or proposes to implement National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) at national level for reduction in air pollution levels at both regional and urban scales and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has invited comments on NCAP from various stakeholders/States/UTs in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the response/comments received from various stakeholders/States/UTs in this regard along with the total cost for implementation of NCAP?

ANSWER

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

(a) In order to address the increasing air pollution across the country in a comprehensive manner, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has finalized the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) as a pan India time bound national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. Overall objective of the NCAP is comprehensive management plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country. The main components of NCAP include City specific air pollution abatement action plan for 102 polluting cities of the country, increasing number of monitoring stations, creation of Technical Assessment Cell, technology support, public participation on planning and implementation, setting up of Air Information Centre for data analysis, resource apportionment studies, setting up of national inventory, guidelines for Indoor Air Pollution and setting up of Rural Monitoring stations etc.

(b) Since Collaborative and participatory approach with focus on all sources of pollution form crux of the Programme, extensive consultation with all the relevant stakeholders forms the foundation for formulation of NCAP. The NCAP has been finalized after due consultation with various stakeholders which inter-alia include general public, State Government, Central Ministries, local bodies, industries, civil societies etc. The mechanism of consultation involves uploading the draft NCAP document on Ministry's website, sharing with major stakeholders viz.

State Government, Resident Commissioners, relevant Ministries, industry associations etc. and extensive stakeholder consultation workshops. In addition to significant inputs from State Governments, various international best practices were also shared by international experts during these consultation workshops which have also been taken into account for finalization of NCAP.

(c) The responses of the stakeholders mainly revolve around sectoral integration, mainstreaming of NCAP in existing policies of government of India including national action plan on climate change, some additional cities in the list of non-attainment cities, target for reduction, timelines, enforcement mechanism, mechanism for involvement of states and cities in implementation etc. The total budget proposed for implementation of NCAP for the financial year 2018-19 and 2019-20 is Rs.300 crore.
