

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

Air Pollution in Delhi

5. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH
SHRI RAHUL KASWAN

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

- (a) Whether Delhi is one of the most polluted cities of the world in spite of all the efforts made to control pollution level and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) The details of the sources responsible for air pollution in Delhi;
- (c) The reasons for failure of the Government mechanism in controlling pollution level in Delhi despite the intervention of the Supreme Court in this regard;
- (d) The steps taken for the implementation of Comprehensive Action Plan for Air Pollution Control in Delhi as of June 2019;
- (e) Whether the Government proposes to promote the use of eco-friendly transport including bicycle for common man to check pollution in the city if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) The precautionary steps and action taken by the Government to tackle severe air pollution in Delhi NCR during upcoming winter season?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) & (c) The average annual concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} in Delhi are above the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Several measures have been taken/being taken by the Government to check/control air pollution in Delhi. Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) data indicated general improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2018. Overall improvement in air quality of Delhi was noted in 2018 (Jan – Dec, 2018) as compared to 2017 (Jan – Dec, 2017). Number of ‘Good’ to ‘Moderate’ days has increased to 159 in 2018, as compared to 152 in 2017, and number of ‘Poor’ to ‘Severe’ days has reduced to 206, compared to 213 in 2017. In Delhi, there is 14.8% reduction in PM_{2.5} levels and 16.5% reduction in PM₁₀ levels in 2018 over 2016.
- (b) The recent study conducted by TERI and ARAI (**Annexure-I**) for Delhi-NCR reveals Transport (17-28%), Industries (22-30%), Agriculture Burning (4-7%), Residential (8-10), Dust [Soil, Road & Construction] (17-38%) and other sources (8-11%) as the main contributors to PM_{2.5} concentrations in summer and winter seasons in Delhi-NCR.

(d) For prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in Delhi and NCR, meetings have been held under the Chairmanship of Minister, Environment, Forest and Climate Change attended by Environment Ministers of Delhi and NCR States. For the implementation of Comprehensive Action Plan, meetings have been held under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Also, directions have been issued to the concerned stakeholders by Central Pollution Control Board on 22.10.18, 06.03.18 and 22.06.18. A total 55 agencies have been directed under sections 3 and 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to ensure strict implementation of Comprehensive Action Plan for prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution in Delhi NCR.

(e) The Central Government has approved the proposal for implementation of scheme titled 'Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India Phase II (FAME India Phase II)' for promotion of Electric Mobility in the country. The total outlay for this Scheme is Rs.10,000 crore over the period of three years with effect from 1st April, 2019.

(f) The Central Government has taken a number of initiatives for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in Delhi and NCR. These include

Plans and Directions

- Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) identifying timelines and implementing agency for actions identified for prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution in Delhi and NCR has been notified.
- National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) under the Central Sector "Control of Pollution" Scheme as a time bound national level strategy to tackle air pollution problem across the country in comprehensive manner has been launched.
- 102 non-attainment cities for formulation and implementation of city specific action plan under NCAP have been identified.
- Graded Response Action Plan for different levels of air pollution in Delhi and NCR has been notified.
- A comprehensive set of directions have been issued under section 18 (1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986 for implementation of 42/31 measures to mitigate air pollution in major cities including Delhi and NCR cities comprising of control and mitigation measures related to vehicular emissions, re-suspension of road dust and other fugitive emissions, bio-mass/municipal solid waste burning, industrial pollution, construction and demolition activities, and other general steps.

Monitoring

- Setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality.
- Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Launch of National Air Quality Index.
- Implementation of Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi in October, 2018 in association with Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

Transport

- Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country.
- Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending.
- Promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads.
- Operationalisation of Eastern Peripheral Expressway & Western Peripheral Expressway to divert non-destined traffic from Delhi.
- Streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate.

Industry

- Badarpur thermal power plant has been closed from 15th October, 2018.
- All brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR.
- Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices all red category industries in Delhi and NCR.
 - Revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time.

Biomass and Solid Waste

- A new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 and 2019-20 has been launched.
- Banning of burning of biomass.
- 3 Waste-to-Energy (W-t-E) plants are currently operational in Delhi with atotal capacity of 5100 Tonnes Per Day(TPD).
- Notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes issued in 2016.

Dust

- Notifications regarding dust mitigation measures for construction and demolition activities.
- Number of mechanised road sweeping machines has been increased significantly and presently 60 machines are deployed for cleaning of roads in Delhi.

Public Outreach

- Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Delhi Government launched Clean Air for Delhi Campaign from 10th – 23rd Feb 2018 and to check air polluting activities pre and post Diwali, a special campaign called "Clean Air Campaign" during November 01, 2018 to November 10, 2018.
- Ministry is promoting peoples participation and awareness building among citizens for environmental conservation through Green Goods Deeds that focus on promotion of cycling, saving water and electricity, growing trees, proper maintenance of vehicles, following of lane discipline and reducing congestion on roads by car pooling etc.
- Development of mechanism for redressal of public complaints regarding air pollution issues in Delhi and NCR (through 'Sameer App', 'Emails'(aircomplaints.cpcb@gov.in) and 'Social Media Networks' (Facebook and Twitter) etc.

Sectoral contributions in PM2.5 and PM10 concentrations in Delhi estimated using dispersion modeling during winters and summers, TERI ARAI, 2018

PM_{2.5}		
Sectors	Winters	Summers
Residential	10%	8%
Agri. Burning	4%	7%
Industry	30%	22%
Dust (soil, road, and const.)	17%	38%
Transport	28%	17%
Others	11%	8%
PM₁₀		
Sectors	Winters	Summers
Residential	9%	8%
Agri. Burning	4%	7%
Industry	27%	22%
Dust (soil, road, const.)	25%	42%
Transport	24%	15%
Others	10%	7%