

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 76
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

Pollution

76. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the observations made by the Supreme Court that the Health Schemes would not be able to achieve any success until pollution is controlled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the causes of rising pollution in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the action plan formulated to curb pollution?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) Government is aware that pollution is associated with adverse health impact such as respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, stress and mental disorders.

Several studies have been conducted in various cities to identify major air pollution sources (mainly NO_x, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and their contributions to ambient air pollution levels in the country. Major sources of air pollution include road dust, vehicles, garbage burning, construction and demolition activities, DG sets, industries, etc.

In order to address the 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 medium term five-year national level strategy to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country. Overall objective of the NCAP is comprehensive mitigation actions for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country.

The Government has taken several other 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; collection of Environmental Protection Charge on more than 2000 CC diesel vehicles; etc.

In reference to Water Pollution, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is implementing a nationwide water quality monitoring under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) at 3500 locations including Surface and Ground water in association with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) & Pollution control Committees (PCCs) to fulfill the mandate of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
