

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1887**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

**NCAP**

1887. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:  
DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the levels of air pollution in rural parts of the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the effect of rural sources of Air Pollution such as biomass burning and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are currently any monitoring mechanisms to measure Air Pollution in rural parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intends to include rural areas under NCAP and if so, the details thereof including timeline and budget earmarked for the same;
- (e) the details of reasons for excluding Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as stakeholder under NCAP inspite of adverse health impacts of air pollution; and
- (f) whether there are plans to include Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as stakeholder under NCAP and if so, the details of roles and responsibilities to be assigned to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare upon its inclusion?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

**(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f)**

Air quality monitoring is carried out in 26 rural areas under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). The air quality status of these 26 rural areas is enclosed at Annexure-I. National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) launched by MoEFCC is a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution. At present, 131 cities are covered under NCAP out of which 123 non-attainment cities were included wherein air quality has not met the national standards for five consecutive years. NCAP strategy document prescribes actionable points pertaining to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for implementation of NCAP objectives. Details of actions are provided at Annexure-II.

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Annexure – I

Details of status of air quality in 26 rural areas during the Year 2020

Sl. No .	State	Sl. No .	Village	District	Annual average in µg/m <sup>3</sup>		
					SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.	Baldevi (Dadra & Nagar Haveli)	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	12	17	70
		2.	Patlara (Daman)	Daman	12	18	71
2.	Punjab	3.	Aligarh (Jagraon)	Ludhiana	8	16	76
		4.	Aspal Khurd (Tapa)	Barnala	7	19	106
		5.	Bara Pind (Goraya)	Jalandhar	7	17	87
		6.	Binjon (Garshankar)	Hoshiarpur	6	15	81
		7.	Bishanpura (Payal)	Ludhiana	8	20	137
		8.	Changal - Mastuana Sahib (Sangrur)	Sangrur	6	16	99
		9.	Chowkimann (Jagraon)	Ludhiana	7	16	182
		10.	Fatehpur (Samana)	Patiala	6	17	91
		11.	Guru Ki Dhab (Kotkapura)	Faridkot	4	11	91
		12.	Jaito Sarja (Batala)	Gurdaspur	6	14	70
		13.	Kharaori (Sirhind)	Fatehgarh Sahib	6	19	92
		14.	Kotladoom (Ajnala)	Amritsar	8	15	111
		15.	Lakho ke Behram (Ferozpur)	Ferozpur	4	15	91
		16.	Mrar Kalan (Muktsar)	Muktsar	-	-	-
		17.	Mukandpur (Nawashahar)	Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar	7	18	104
		18.	Mureedke (Batala)	Gurdaspur	6	16	85
		19.	Naudhrani (Malerkotla)	Sangrur	5	17	95
		20.	Peer Mohammad (Jalalabad)	Fazilka	4	11	85
		21.	Poohli (Bhatinda)	Bathinda	-	-	--
		22.	Qila Bharian (Sangrur)	Sangrur	5	16	94
		23.	Rakhra (Patiala)	Patiala	6	18	90
		24.	Rohila (Samrala)	Ludhiana	8	17	119
		25.	Subanpur (Dhilwan)	Jalandhar			
		26.	Tirathpur (Amritsar I - UTI)	Amritsar	8	18	128

**Action points for Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under NCAP**

- i. Study on the national environmental health profile.
- ii. Response study and cohort study programme.
- iii. Ensuring a regular health profile or database for assisting decision making.
- iv. Framework for a monthly analysis of data with respect to health comprising daily AQI, PM2.5 and PM10 measurements (24 hours average); metrological parameters; deaths due to heart attack, strokes, respiratory arrest following the existing respiratory ailments, trends in lung cancer if available with respect to all cities.
- v. Awareness and orientation workshops for wide dissemination of information.
- vi. Training researchers in study design through holding workshops in epidemiology, toxicology, and biostatistics.
- vii. Studies on health and economic impact of air pollution.