### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

# LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 57 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

### **Dust Mitigation Measures**

## \*57. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE: SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of increasing cases of non-compliance of dust mitigating measures as per the mandate of Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) which consequently cause waste from the activities of construction and demolition works and of Thermal Power Plants to spread into the air;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of cases of non-compliance of dust mitigating measures from Delhi and Uttar Pradesh as per the mandate of CAQM, which came to the knowledge of the Government and the action taken in this regard and the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to create an online system for monitoring of compliance and to create awareness about dust mitigating measures and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the State-wise details of the field visits or inspections carried out in various regions including NTPC in Bhagalpur for compliance of dust mitigating measures under CAQM during the last one year and the current year; and
- (f) the extent to which poor condition of the roads is responsible for air pollution?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARAS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 57 DUE FOR REPLY ON 06.02.2023 REGRADING 'DUST MITIGATION MEASURES' RAISED BY MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE AND SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

#### (a)&(b)

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has issued statutory directions and advisories for dust mitigation in the NCR, besides calling for compliance of various statutes viz. C&D Waste Management Rules and related CPCB guidelines. CAQM has an extensive monitoring mechanism and system towards compliance of dust mitigation measures. Flying Squads/ Inspection Teams constituted by the CAQM have carried out *incognito* inspections of the C&D project sites, besides inspections by the respective State Pollution Control Boards / DPCC.

(c)

As on 31.01.2023, a total of about 11,910 field inspections have been carried out by the Flying Squads constituted by the CAQM across sectors like C&D projects, road construction / rebuilding projects, industries etc. In such inspections, 48 projects in the C&D sector in NCT of Delhi and 77 projects in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh respectively were found to be grossly violating the directions/ rules/ guidelines. These were issued directions for closure of work at the sites. These projects resume only after due compliance of various statutory requirements and preventive and corrective measures.

(d)

Under statutory directions of the Commission, to facilitate remote monitoring of bigger C&D projects, all projects in the NCR on plot areas equal to or more than 500 sqm. are required to register on the respective dedicated web portals in the States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and the NCT of Delhi and certify self-compliance of various stipulated measures. The project sites are also required to be video fenced to enable remote monitoring of the compliances by the inspection agencies through the respective web portals. Such portals have been developed and are operational in the NCR States and NCT of Delhi.

- (e) During 2021-22, a total of about 5,456 field inspections were carried out by the Flying Squads constituted by the CAQM across sectors like C&D projects, road construction / rebuilding projects and industries etc. During 2022-23 a total of about 6,456 field inspections have been carried out upto 31.01.2023. The Commission has been constituted for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of air in the NCR and adjoining areas.
- (f) Poor condition of the roads in the NCR is an important factor contributing to air pollution. A Comprehensive Study on Air Pollution and Green House Gases in Delhi submitted by IIT Kanpur in 2016 has concluded that in summer, soil and road dust can contribute about 26% to PM10 and PM2.5.

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