

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 58
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

Effectiveness of Air Purifiers

*58. SHRI NAYAB SINGH:
SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:

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

- (a) the details of the effectiveness of the air purifiers in reducing air pollution in major metropolitan areas;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to cover Kurukshetra and Panipat in its pollution abatement efforts in view of the serious air pollution and related health issues faced by the people of Kurukshetra and Panipat in Haryana State;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up plant for improving air quality particularly in Kurukshetra and Panipat; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARAS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 58 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING 'EFFECTIVENESS OF AIR PURIFIERS' RAISED BY SHRI NAYAB SINGH, SHRI SANJAY BHATIA, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(a) to (d)

Two experimental pilot projects of smog towers, one at Anand Vihar and another at Connaught Place have been commissioned by Central Government on 31st August, 2021 and by Delhi Government on 1st October, 2021 respectively. The purpose of this Research & Development pilot project is to evaluate the performance efficiency of such outdoor air cleaning systems (Smog Tower).

Total duration of this project is 2 years and 10 months from the Zero date of signing of the MoU. The teams from IIT-Bombay and IIT-Delhi have started performance evaluation study of smog towers at both sites under various operating scenarios.

Since inception, the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region (NCR) and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has been rigorously taking up the issue of air pollution in NCR and adjoining areas. Important policy initiatives and measures have been identified with respect to the major sectors contributing to air pollution in this region through various directions / orders and advisories issued from time to time, with a view to abate pollution and improve Air Quality in the entire region including Kurukshetra and Panipat.

Further, Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country. Taking into account the available international experiences and national studies, the tentative national level target under NCAP is 20%–30% reduction of Particulate matter concentration by 2024.

Under NCAP, CPCB has identified 131 cities (including 123 non-attainment cities exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), which were notified to protect human health) including Faridabad city of Haryana. City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out for implementation in these 131 non-attainment/million plus cities to improve the air quality. These plans target city specific air polluting sources like Soil & Road Dust, Vehicles, Domestic Fuel, MSW Burning, Construction Material and Industries with short-term priority action as well as those to be implemented in a medium to longer time frame along with the responsible agencies.
