

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1214
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023

National Clean Air Programme

1214. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to address the uneven progress and pace of implementation under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is a shortage of air quality monitoring stations in the country;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the expansion of air quality monitoring stations in the country;
- (e) whether the steps have been taken to address the gap between the Centre's allocations and the actual funds received by States as well as varying levels of fund utilization among States under the Control of Pollution Scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason is therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b):

National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) has been launched in January, 2019 which is a long-term, time-bound national level strategy for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution. Under NCAP, it has been envisaged to achieve target of 20 to 30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations by 2024 in 131 cities of 24 States/UTs with respect to base year 2017. Subsequently, the target has been revised to achieve up to 40% reduction or achieve National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in terms PM concentrations by 2025-26.

Due to implementation of city action plans under NCAP, 90 cities out of 131 cities have shown improvement in air quality in terms of annual PM10 concentrations in FY 2022-23 with respect to the baseline of FY 2017-18. 15 cities have met National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM10 (60 µg/m³) in FY 2022-23. Details of progress made by the cities in meeting air quality targets in FY 2022-23 of 131 cities are enclosed at **Annexure I**

(c) & (d):

Guidelines for criteria for establishing air quality monitoring stations based on the population of a city/town, have been issued by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Based on the guidelines, ambient air quality monitoring is carried out in 516 cities/towns in the country having 1449 air quality monitoring stations out which 26 monitoring stations are part of rural areas.

Further, an amount of ₹ 70.37 crore has been sanctioned in FY 2022-23 under National Ambient Air Quality Programme (NAMP) for providing financial assistance to States/UTs for establishment, operation and maintenance of Air Quality Monitoring Stations.

(e) & (f):

Funds to 82 Non-attainment Cities under NCAP of Control of Pollution Scheme are allocated based on the guidelines for “Release and utilization of funds under National Clean Air Programme” issued by MoEF&CC and released based on achievement of prescribed annual air pollution reduction targets in terms of PM10 concentrations.

To meet the objectives of NCAP, 131 cities have prepared City Action Plans to take measures to improve air quality. To review the monitoring and implementation of the programme, committees have been constituted at Central, State and City levels. State-wise details of release and utilization of funds against the allocation made during FY 2019-20 till 2023-24 till date are provided at **Annexure II**

Annexure I**Details of progress made by 131 cities in the improvement of air quality in the FY 2022-23 as against FY 2017-18**

S. No.	No. of Cities/Towns	Percentage improvement in PM₁₀ concentrations in FY 2022-23 as against FY 2017-18 (%)
1	15	>40
2	11	>30-40
3	23	>20-30
4	16	10-20
5	66	<10
Total	131	

Annexure II

State-wise details of allocation, release & utilization of funds for 82 NACs under control of Pollution Scheme for the period of FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24

S. No.	State	Allocation of funds for FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24 (Rs. in Crores)	Fund Released (Till Nov. 2023) (Rs. in Crores)	Utilization of Fund (Till Nov. 2023) (Rs. in Crores)
1	Andhra Pradesh	121.11	82.59	35.98
2	Chandigarh	37.07	28.78	12.96
3	Chhattisgarh	17.10	15.85	9.64
4	Gujrat	12.00	12.00	6.00
5	Himachal Pradesh	18.25	14.31	13.24
6	Jammu & Kashmir	126.66	80.85	15.93
7	Jharkhand	6.00	6.00	5.47
8	Karnataka	75.20	48.67	12.34
9	Madhya Pradesh	66.30	48.44	17.61
10	Maharashtra	214.17	164.02	59.62
11	Odisha	81.14	64.49	46.06
12	Punjab	111.05	75.92	18.07
13	Rajasthan	58.98	47.73	10.12
14	Tamil Nadu	13.70	11.27	7.15
15	Telangana	21.04	18.03	12.17
16	Uttar Pradesh	471.66	306.99	109.70
17	Uttarakhand	74.00	53.68	16.77
18	West Bengal	73.34	57.97	24.77
19	Bihar	41.91	33.43	21.58
20	Assam	55.52	45.28	19.45
21	Nagaland	16.77	13.7	1.62
22	Meghalaya	6.50	5.48	2.84
23	Delhi	46.19	38.22	10.77
Total		1768.66	1273.70	489.86
