

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4027
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021

National Clean Air Programme

4027. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

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

- (a) the aim and scope of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) launched in 2019;
- (b) whether there exists a uniform process for identifying non-attainment cities and tracking inter-year air quality improvements in the programme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) which are the frontline regulators for pollution control in the country are in urgent need of capacity building and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted/requested for an assessment of the funds required for capacity building of SPCBs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds allocated/released for the same under the programme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) & (b) Government of India has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20% to 30% reduction in PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration.

Under NCAP, the non-attainment cities are updated annually as per the criteria for identifying non-attainment cities. The cities exceeding any one parameter notified under National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) consecutively for five years are termed as non-attainment cities. The list of non-attainment cities is updated annually as per the criteria.

(c) to (e) In pursuant to Hon'ble NGT directions in OA No. 95/2019 in the matter of Aryavart Foundation versus Vapi Green Enviro Ltd. and others, Government constituted Expert Committee for assessment of SPCBs/PCCs with regard to notification of Recruitment Rules for appointment of Member Secretaries and Chairmen for strengthening SPCBs/PCCs. Further, Government has directed States for uniform implementation of the Recruitment Rules for all vacant posts by competent persons and procuring the requisite equipment including commissioning and upgradation of all laboratories with the assistance of CPCB.

Capacity building of SPCBs to meet the objectives of improving air quality of non-attainment cities has been identified as one of the activities in many States.

Under NCAP, Rs 335.92 crores (Rs 224.2 crores in FY 2019-20 and Rs 111.0 crores in FY 2020-21) has been released for implementation of activities specified under city action plans. SPCBs have been provided support under the NCAP Program for following activities:

- Installation & commissioning of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations
- Source Apportionment Study
- Establishing mobile enforcement units and Mobile testing units
- Display boards
- Public awareness and capacity building, display boards and Installation of manual monitoring stations

The funds provided for the above-mentioned activities are as given in table below:

S. No.	Activities	Funds provided (Rs. crores)
1.	Installation & commissioning of CAAQMS	79.00
2.	Source Apportionment Study	8.80
3.	Establishing mobile enforcement units and Mobile testing units	7.20
4.	Public awareness and capacity building, display boards and manual monitoring stations	7.12
