

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2007
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2022

Data on Air Pollution Sources

2007. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:

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

- (a) whether the Government is undertaking any studies to examine the possible relation between air pollution and ailments and deaths suffered due to COVID-19 in certain cities;
- (b) whether the Government has reduced the budget of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) for FY 2023 by Rs. 3 crore compared to the budget estimate for FY 2022 and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to get cities to start collecting data on their own local air polluting sources and to create a central database on the same and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) No studies are undertaken to examine the possible relation between air pollution and ailments and deaths due to COVID-19.

(b) The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas has been constituted under the "The Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021" {29 of 2021}. A total fund of Rs. 20.00 crore has been allocated for the year 2021-22 to the Commission to meet the establishment-related expenditure of the Commission. The Commission has been provided with one-time establishment-related non-recurring expenditure during 2021-22. In 2022-23, the Commission has been allocated Rs. 17 Crore as it will not require the one-time non-recurring funds for its establishment.

(c) Source apportionment studies have been completed in 37 Non-Attainment Cities (NACs) and initiated in 51 NACs. These studies provide data regarding local air polluting sources. PRANA portal has been developed to populate all such information as a central database.
