

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2433
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2022

Performance-based Grants

2433. SHRIMATI SUNITADUGGAL:

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

- (a) whether there is a mechanism set up to recommend performance-based grants to all 42, Million Plus Cities (MPCs);
- (b) whether the same mechanism is applicable for monitoring other 90 Non-Attainment cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP); and
- (c) the details of the parameters and performance metrics, determining the release of the ambient air quality grants to Million Plus Cities (MPCs) for the Financial Years 2021-2022?

ANSWER

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

(a) , (b) & (c):

As per the operational guidelines published by Department of Expenditure vide dated 10.08.2021 for implementation of the recommendations on ambient air quality component in the Million-plus challenge fund for Million Plus cities/ Urban agglomerations in Fifteenth Financial Commission final report, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) acts as nodal ministry and recommends the release of Million Plus Challenge Fund to Million Plus Cities based on the performance of cities on air quality after consultation with MoH&UA and State Governments.

During financial year 2021-22, release of ambient air quality grants to million plus cities (MPCs) was on the basis of following parameters:

- A. Strengthening of the pollution monitoring mechanisms;
- B. Source-wise cause analysis for air pollution;
- C. Progress on action plans and compliance of statutory guidelines;
- D. Quantification of air quality improvement with the weights

Details of abovementioned parameters and relative weightage for assessment of performance of cities for FY 2021-22 are enclosed at **Annexure I**.

Under National Clean Air Program, Operational guidelines for release and utilization of funds under NCAP for 82 non-attainment cities has been issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Annexure - I

Year-wise weightage for City Performance Assessment is as under:

Sr. No.	Parameter 2021	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
A	Strengthening of the pollution monitoring mechanisms	10	-	-	-	-
B	Source-wise cause analysis for air pollution	10	-	-	-	-
C	Progress on action plans and compliance of statutory guidelines	10	-	-	-	-
D	Quantification of air quality improvement with the weights	70	100	100	100	100
Total		100	100	100	100	100

A. Strengthening of the pollution monitoring mechanisms:

- a. Operationalization of Air Quality Monitoring Cell (AQMC)
- b. IT-Enabled air quality data management Systems
- c. Co-ordination committee reviews including progress and review of City Action Plans including public grievances redressal portal, emergency response and awareness program.

B. Source-wise cause analysis for air pollution:

- a. Air Quality profiling to identify suitable locations for AQ monitoring station including hotspots.
- b. Source Apportionments Study and establishment of robust emission Inventory system.
- c. Development of IT-based Emission Tracking System

C. Progress on action plans and compliance of statutory guidelines:

- a. Implementation and updation of City Action Plans
- b. Monitoring of PUC for vehicles
- c. Infrastructure planning and set up of (CAAQMS/ Manual AQMs)

D. Quantification of air quality improvement with the weights:

Quantification of improvement in air quality has two parts, namely, reduction in particulate matter (PM10) and increase in the good days according to improvement in the air quality index (AQI) from the base year 2019-20. The performance of the 42 Million-Plus City/agglomeration (Cities/UAs) was assessed at various levels and funds awarded based on the parameters fixed by the 15th Finance Commission in Annexure 7.8, 7.8 A and 7.8 B of Chapter -7, Volume-II of the Final Report.

Evaluation under abovementioned parameter D and performance metrics used for determining the release of the ambient air quality grants to Million Plus Cities (MPCs) for the Financial Years 2021-2022 is as under:

i. Reduction in air pollution levels (particulate matter)

TableA-PM₁₀ AnnualAverage Concentration		
S.No.	Reduction(%)inannualaverageconcentration	Improvement
1	15andabove	High
2	<15	Low

ii. FrequencyofexceedanceinAQIlevels:

The number of days exceeding AQI (Moderate - 200) out of total number of normal days monitored per year would be graded as under:

TableB-Gooddays (AQI<200)		
S.No.	Increasein Good days(%)	Improvement
1	15andabove	High
2	<15	Low

Based on grading in Table ‘A’ and Table ‘B’ above, the combined performance factor for Air Quality Management would be graded and evaluated for the cities/ UAs as per following procedure:

S.No.	Reduction (%) in annualaverage concentration(fromTable A)	IncreaseinGooddays(%) (fromTable B)	Performance Factor,S_D=Score, S*
1	High	High	100
2	Low	High	75
3	High	Low	50
4	Low	Low	25

Table1–FundAllocation toCities(Performancebased)	
Scoreof thecity,S	Percentageof Fund allocation from2021-22onwards
80-100	100
60-80	75
50-60	50
40-50	25
Below40	NIL
