

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3657**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022**

**Air Pollution Global Cities Ranking**

3657. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT:

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

- (a) whether Korba district of Chhattisgarh has been ranked 17th in the world in the Air Pollution Global Cities Ranking released by Greenpeace Organization on the basis of data of the NASA;
- (b) whether the said pollution is affecting the adjacent districts also and if so, whether the Union Government has taken any steps to control pollution after this report;
- (c) whether any action is being taken to control the polluted water and other effluents discharged by various nearby plants/factories, along with the pollution emanated majorly by transport and industrial cluster- Government and private power plants; and
- (d) if so, whether any study has been conducted about the adverse health effects of the said pollution on the citizens?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d)**

There is no established mechanism for ranking the cities in terms of pollution. It also requires authentic data and proper peer review. The Government is aware that several private institutions and universities are ranking cities adopting different methodologies, different data set and using different weightages to parameters. The data used for ranking is extracted primarily from satellite imageries which are not validated by proper ground truthing.

The analysis of ambient air quality of last 5 years by CPCB shows that the concentration of SO<sub>2</sub> in Korba and its adjacent district of Bilaspur is within the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) (Annexure-I).

City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for implementation in 132 non-attainment cities and million plus cities including Korba city of Chhattisgarh as a non-attainment city. The city action plans focus on city specific short/ medium/ long term actions to control air pollution from sources such as vehicular emission, road dust, burning of biomass/ crop/ garbage/ Municipal Solid Waste, landfills, construction activities, industrial emission, etc.

Under NCAP, an amount of Rs 1.06 Cr has been released to Korba City from the period of Financial Year 2019-20 to Financial Year 2021-22 for initiating actions as per the city action plan.

The action taken/ being taken to control the polluted water and other effluents discharged by various nearby plants/factories, along with the pollution emanated primarily by transport and industrial clusters, Government and private power plants, is given as Annexure-II.

Air pollution is one of the factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. However, there is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation between health and air pollution. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors, which include food habits, occupational habits, socio-economic status, medical history, immunity, heredity, etc., of the individuals.

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**Annexure-I**

**Ambient Air Quality of Korba and Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh with respect to SO<sub>2</sub>**

District	City	Annual Average of SO <sub>2</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Korba	Korba	12	11	10	8	7
Bilaspur	Bilaspur	5	6	6	6	5

NB. NAAQS of SO<sub>2</sub> is 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual)

## **Annexure-II**

### **Steps towards prevention and control of pollution caused by various industries**

Several steps are taken towards prevention and control of pollution caused from various types of industries across the country. Steps towards control of industrial pollution *inter alia* include the follows:

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India notifies Industry Specific Discharge Standards under Schedule-I: 'Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from various Industries' of Environment Protection Act, 1986 including Sugar industries. SPCBs and PCCs in States and Union Territories respectively are adhered to ensure the compliance of these standards. So far, industry specific environmental standards, for about 80 industrial sectors, have been notified.
- The SPCBs/PCCs issue consent to establish/ consent to operate and authorization to the industries in the States verifying the permission granted by concerned authority for land conversion for setting up of industry. Also, the SPCBs/PCCs monitor the compliance of industrial emissions/effluent discharges and other operational activities according to the prescribed standards.
- CPCB carries out inspection-cum-Monitoring of 17 categories of highly polluting industries on random basis, selected on the basis of the real time data received through OCEMS installed in industries. In case of non-compliance, action against industry is taken under provisions of Water Act, 1974, Air Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- CPCB has revised the criteria for categorization of industries and directed all SPCBs/PCCs in March, 2016, to adopt the same. The categorization is based on pollution potential of the industrial sector and the purpose of the categorization is to ensure that the industry is established in a manner consistent with the environmental objectives and to prompt industrial sectors to adopt cleaner technologies, resulting in generation of no or minimum pollutants. CPCB has categorized 254 industrial sectors into red (61), orange (90), green (65) and white (38) categories.

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