

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1113
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

Environment Protection Charges

1113 SHRI B K PARTHASARATHI:
SHRI RAMVIR SINGH BIDHURI:

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

- (a) the amount of Environmental Protection Charges (EPC) and Environmental Compensation (EC) received by the Central Pollution Control Board during the last five years, year-wise and State/UT-wise including Delhi;
- (b) the amount of funds utilised under the EPC and EC, during the said period, year, head and items-wise and State/UT-wise including Delhi;
- (c) the details of the projects or studies on which the EPC and EC have been utilised;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to invest in projects or studies that will curb pollution at source through these funds; and
- (e) 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 KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) & (b):

The amount of Environment Protection Charges (EPC) received by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), and the amount of funds utilized under the EPC during the last five years is placed at **Annexure-I**.

With regard to Environmental Compensation (EC), CPCB has received a deposit of total amount of Rs.126.76 Crores in the NGT EC 25% account and Rs. 276.96 Crores in the NGT EC 75% account inclusive of bank interest till March 31, 2024 of which Rs. 46.25 Crores and Rs. 15.69 Crores have been released till March 31, 2024, respectively. Further, in pursuant to the orders of the Hon'ble NGT in specific cases, 23 specific purpose accounts have been opened. As on March 31, 2024, the total amount deposited in these accounts is Rs. 176 Crores, interest accrued is 17 Crores and amount released is Rs.1.33 Crores.

With respect to State-wise utilization, it is submitted that the fund has been released for 67 projects/ studies, out of which 54 projects/ studies were conducted by CPCB with projects having nationwide scope, studies directed Hon'ble NGT, etc. Remaining projects were conducted by State Pollution Control Board. The details are given at **Annexure-II**.

(c): List of the projects or studies on which the EPC have been utilized is annexed at **Annexure-III**.

The projects/studies funded from EC funds are within the following scope of activities accepted by the Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 22.01.2019 in the matter O.A. No. 101/2019:

- i. Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.
- ii. Remediation of contaminated sites-and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipment, etc. including hiring of Experts/ Consultants for specific requirement for remediation of sites, etc.
- iii. Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.
- iv. Carrying capacity assessment for ecologically and environmentally sensitive & critical areas, including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific purpose and period.
- v. R & D activities with regard to new technologies, clean technologies, etc.
- vi. Capacity building of scientific and engineering personnel of Central Pollution Control Board and PCBs/ PCCs to rejuvenate and protect the environment.
- vii. Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in terms of manpower and logistics.
- viii. Payment of honorarium in compliance of Judicial Orders of the Courts and Tribunal.
- ix. Specialized studies on accidental spill areas, health impact assessment, recalcitrant pollutants, etc.
- x. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.
- xi. Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.

The list of projects/studies funded under EC Funds is placed at **Annexure-IV**.

(d) & (e):

Beside scientific studies, utilization of EPC funds has been considered for implementation of on-ground mitigation measures to reduce air pollution at source and for restoration of environment and accordingly following new areas have been added for funding:

- Funding of projects (road construction, paving, procurement of anti-smog guns (ASGs) & Mechanical Road Sweepers (MRSs), etc.) of ULBs/SPCBs
- Funding establishment of paddy straw based pelletisation and torrefaction plants
- Funding retrofitment /upgradation of DG sets in Government hospitals
- Gap funding support for implementation of micro-level action plans in non-attainment cities
- Gap funding support for implementation of activities of city action plans of NCR cities not funded NCAP and XVFC. Detailed guidelines for providing funding support to 18 NCR cities have been prepared in line with NCAP model. These have been submitted to Hon'ble NGT for seeking its concurrence.

Details of the projects sanctioned under EPC funds and proposals are kept in abeyance based on above said areas is annexed at **Annexure-V** and **Annexure-VI**.

There are 22 ongoing projects/studies which are funded under EC Funds for prevention and control of pollution in the country. The key ongoing projects include,

- Review of National Ambient Air Quality Standards

- Source Apportionment / Carrying Capacity study for 25 Non-Attainment Cities (NACs)
- Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool development for analysis of air quality data
- Satellite based ambient air quality monitoring at national scale (SAANS)
- Development of National Hazardous Waste Tracking (NHWTS) Software
- Design, Development & Implementation of OCEMS* Data Acquisition and Management System (ODAMS) for direct data transfer for the Control of Pollution from Industries in India
- Scientific study to review the deep sea discharge norm at Kantiajal, Gujarat with respect to increase in concentration of COD in discharge effluent
- Development of E-learning module under Mission Karmayogi
- Implementation of centralized barcode system for tracking of biomedical waste
- Strengthening and upgradation of laboratories of CPCB
- Noise Mapping, Hot Spot Identification and Mitigation Plan for Noise Pollution Control in Delhi
- Upgradation of Laboratories with IT enabled services including Laboratory Information Management System
- Restoration of Phuldera drain
- Value added use of Bottom Ash of thermal power plant as partial replacement of natural sand in concrete

Annexure-I

EPC Funds (as on May 31, 2024)							(in crores)
Financial Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 (Upto 31 May 2024)	Total
Received Amount	40.59	22.17	35.16	57.88	65.28	11.42	364.40
Interest	8.32	6.11	4.40	10.19	20.74	0.17	58.16
Received Amount (including interest)	48.91	28.28	39.56	68.07	86.02	11.59	422.56*
Expenditure	8.24	22.88	11.41	6.44	22.38	0.37	99.29

Annexure-II

S.No.	Project Proponent	No. of projects	Amount Released (Rs.)
1	CPCB	54	41.25 Crores
2	Nagaland Pollution Control Board	5	93.84 L Lacs
3	Arunachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board	3	1.75 Crores
4	Manipur Pollution Control Board	1	86.91 Lacs
5	Pollution Control Board Assam	1	3.44 Crores
6	Punjab Pollution Control Board	2	9.15 Crores
7	Kerala State Pollution Control Board	1	4.55 Lacs

Annexure-III

List of Projects or studies under EPC Funds (as on 31.05.2024)

S. No.	Head
Scientific/technical studies	
1	Pilot project to demonstrate the effectiveness of air pollution mitigation by Pariyayantra filtration- MRIIRS
2	Deployment and Evaluation of air purification units for traffic junction pollution abatement in Delhi- NEERI
3	Control of Dust Emissions using dust Suppressant- EPRI
4	Bi-weekly action plan for effective and efficient management of PM2.5 concentrations in the Delhi city- IIT Delhi
5	Multiple antenna high density ion generator for pollution control in New Delhi - STP Pune
6	Impact of Traffic on Asthma amongst School Children in Delhi- IIHMR
7	Monitoring and Evaluation of Ionization based Air Purifying Technology- IIT Delhi
8	Health impact assessment of fire cracker bursting on Diwali & Dusshera- MAMC
9	Ambient air quality monitoring in Meerut and Faridabad by M/s Shriram Institute of Industrial Research - Air Lab
10	Evaluation of Modelling techniques for air quality management in - TERI
11	Estimation of Fuel Losses and Assessment of Air Quality at selected traffic- CRR
12	Proxy relationship of ultrafine particles number concentration, new particle formation and its growth rate in transport microenvironment in Delhi- DTU
13	Does Poor Air Quality from Crop burning in close proximity to residential areas adversely affects respiratory health- TERI
14	Delhi air quality experiment: A paradigm shift in source apportionment- IIT Kanpur
15	Delineation of Air Shed for Air Quality Management in Delhi-NCR- NEERI
16	Assessment of contribution of stubble burning in Punjab & Haryana states on air quality- NEERI
17	Air quality impact on travel choice (A-Quit)- TERI SAS
18	Pilot study for assessment of reducing air pollution in urban areas by using outdoor cleaning system (sometimes called as Smog Tower)- IITB, TPL
19	Health impact of firecrackers bursting during Diwali in National Capital of Delhi - MAMC (5 year)
20	Near-real time fire emission estimation and fire forecasting system for Delhi Air Quality- CDAC
Activities related to Field visits	
21	Clean Air for Delhi Campaign
22	CPCB field visits for feedback on air polluting activities in Delhi
Laboratory infrastructure projects	
23	Up gradation of existing SODAR at CPCB - NPL
24	Energy Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (EDXRF) for Instrumentation Laboratory, CPCB
25	Procurement of Instruments/ equipment for Instrumentation Laboratory, CPCB
26	Strengthening of Lab Infrastructure- Air Laboratory, CPCB
Road dust control projects related to ULBs	
27	Proposal of GMC for road maintenance/construction

CAAQMS projects	
28	Commissioning of Central Control Room(CCR), Social Media Platform, Sameer App – IT, CPCB
29	Strengthening of Air Quality Monitoring network in Delhi- Air Laboratory, CPCB
30	Expansion of CAAQMS in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh- HSPCB and UPPCB
Palletisation guidelines	
31	Grant for Pellet plant

Note: Besides above, EPC funds have been utilised for meeting expenditures towards stipend, meetings/ workshops and other administrative activities.

Annexure-IV

List of Projects/ Studies/ Laboratory Equipment Procurement funded under EC Funds
as on March 31, 2024

S.No	Title	Type of Activity	Status (Completed/ ongoing)	Expenditure till 31.03.2024 (Rs. in Lacs)
1.	Review of National Ambient Air Quality Standards	Research	Ongoing	14.79
2.	Preparation of guidelines for setting up of Biodiversity Parks in the floodplains of rivers of India	Research	Completed	2.3
3.	Scientific study to review the deep sea discharge norm at Kantiajal, Gujarat with respect to increase in concentration of COD in discharge effluent	Research	Ongoing	78.8
4.	Source Apportionment / Carrying Capacity study for 25 Non-Attainment Cities (NACs)	Research	Ongoing	600.5
5.	Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool development for analysis of air quality data	Research	Ongoing	23.78
6.	Emission Inventories, Source Apportionment and Carrying Capacity studies in the Indo Gangetic Plain (IGP) region	Research	Completed	1.65
7.	Installation and commissioning of Indigenous items for ring test and static injection system and replacing island tables in wet chemical laboratory	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	160.12
8.	Random verification of annual inventory report on hazardous waste management submitted by SPCBs/PCCs	Investigation	Completed	113
9.	Assessment of Air, Water, and Soil Quality in Baghjan Oil Blow out site & its Vicinity, Tinsukia, Assam	Investigation	Completed	52.01
10.	Strengthening of Computer Network in CPCB	IEC	Completed	106
11.	Setting up Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in Non-Attainment Cities (NAC) in the country	Monitoring infrastructure	Completed	500
12.	Development of National Hazardous Waste Tracking (NHWTS) Software	Investigation, capacity building	Ongoing	0
13.	Design, Development & Implementation of OCEMS* Data Acquisition and Management System (ODAMS) for direct data transfer for the Control of Pollution from Industries in India	Monitoring infrastructure	Ongoing	0

S.No	Title	Type of Activity	Status (Completed/ongoing)	Expenditure till 31.03.2024 (Rs. in Lacs)
	*OCEMS (Online Continuous Effluent/Emission Monitoring System)			
14.	Development of comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) & Circular Economy Portal	Infrastructure for surveillance	Ongoing	14.27
15.	Upgradation of Laboratories with IT enabled services including laboratory information management system	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	208
16.	Development of E-learning module under Mission Karmayogi	Capacity building	Ongoing	0
17.	Implementation of centralized barcode system for tracking of biomedical waste	Research	Ongoing	0
18.	Strengthening and upgradation of laboratories of CPCB	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	451.57
19.	Inspection of 389 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) discharging in Hindon Sub basin through third party by seven technical institutes along with concerned SPCBs (Phase I)	Investigation	Completed	12.74
20.	Satellite based ambient air quality monitoring at national scale (SAANS): Phase II - Maintenance and Improvement	Monitoring infrastructure	Ongoing	20.02
21.	Assessment of Environmental Carrying Capacity of Eco-Sensitive Zones: Sanjay Gandhi National Park Mumbai	Research	Completed	6.84
22.	Setting up of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in Charkhi Dadri and Mohendergarh in Haryana	Monitoring infrastructure	Ongoing	0
23.	Noise Mapping, Hot Spot Identification and Mitigation Plan for Noise Pollution Control in Delhi – I (85 L)	Investigation, Research	Ongoing	33.71
24.	Inventory management system for laboratories and strengthening of infrastructure	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	373.818
25.	Conducting 2-day workshops at Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET) centers on plastic waste management in India	Capacity building	Completed	33.75
26.	Sampling & analysis charges, purchase of equipment/ consumables, etc. for NGT assignments conducted by Regional	NGT assignments, Laboratory	Ongoing	91.5

S.No	Title	Type of Activity	Status (Completed/ongoing)	Expenditure till 31.03.2024 (Rs. in Lacs)
	Directorates of CPCB	strengthening		
27.	Demonstration of Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) for Environmental Laboratory wastewater treatment	Research	Ongoing	8.35
28.	NABL accreditation and strengthening of laboratory at CPCB Regional Directorate Bhopal	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	5.33
29.	Inventorization of salt generated from Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) of Textile & Tannery sector and status of management in the state of Tamil Nadu	Investigation	Ongoing	9
30.	Status of Secured Land-Fills (SLF) maintained by individual industries and CETPs in Tamil Nadu and assessment of ground water quality around SLF	Research	Ongoing	3
31.	Study on flood plain identification & demarcation of River Mahanadi in the identified stretches	Research	Completed	6.3
32.	Development of state of the art laboratory infrastructure at CPCB Regional Directorate Bhopal	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	23.15
33.	Strengthening & upgradation of laboratory of CPCB Regional Directorate Vadodara	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	0
34.	Upgradation of the central laboratory of Pollution Control Board, Assam	Laboratory strengthening	Ongoing	344.4
35.	Information, Education & Communication Activities in Arunachal Pradesh	Capacity building	Completed	24.92
36.	Inventorization of Seven types of wastes in Arunachal Pradesh	Investigation	Completed	90
37.	Setting up of laboratory at Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh by APPCB	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	59.85
38.	Procurement of Video Conferencing Equipment for Nagaland Pollution Control Board	Capacity building, IEC	Completed	2.85
39.	Inventorization of Hazardous waste in Nagaland	Investigation	Completed	41.18
40.	Information, Education & Communication Activities in Nagaland	Capacity building	Completed	

S.No	Title	Type of Activity	Status (Completed/ongoing)	Expenditure till 31.03.2024 (Rs. in Lacs)
41.	Construction of 1 km road using plastic waste (polymer bitumen road) at Signal point, Dimapur, Nagaland* *The project was undertaken by Nagaland Pollution Control Board to demonstrate utilization of plastic waste in road making.	Research	Completed	27.31
42.	Inventorization and awareness of E-waste in the state of Nagaland	Investigation	Completed	22.5
43.	Installation of Real Time Water Quality Monitoring Stations (RTWQMS) by Punjab SPCB	Monitoring infrastructure	Completed	375
44.	Laboratory Upgradation of Punjab SPCB	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	540
45.	VOC emission spray painting and control technologies	Research	Completed	4.55
46.	Manipur Pollution Control board – Assistance for urgent needs of the laboratory of the board (procurement of equipment, consumables, etc.)	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	86.91
47.	Waste to wealth hackathon under Mission Life	IEC	Completed	1.8
48.	Conference cum training program on environmental pollution and remediation conducted at Delhi Judicial Academy	IEC	Completed	1.22
49.	Upgradation of monitoring capabilities of Air Laboratory in CPCB through procurement of HPLC system & accessories and PM2.5 Samplers	Laboratory strengthening	Completed	106.8
50.	Restoration of Phuldera drain	NGT assignment	Ongoing	62.5
51.	Study to establish whether existing batch processes and advanced batch automated process are able to meet environmental concerns vis-a vis- continuous process in tyre pyrolysis Industry	NGT assignment	Completed	3.84
52.	Assessment of environmental damage and preparation of restoration plan for air, water and soil environment due to styrene gas leakage at Visakhapatnam	NGT assignment	Completed	25.73
53.	Bioremediation of contaminated soils and surface water bodies and ground water (aquifer) of the De-sludged and refilled Lagoon of Distillery Spent wash of M/s Godavari Bio-refineries Ltd. at Sakarwadi, Maharashtra	NGT assignment	Ongoing	6.78

S.No	Title	Type of Activity	Status (Completed/ongoing)	Expenditure till 31.03.2024 (Rs. in Lacs)
54.	Environmental and health studies in Malegaon in pursuant to Hon'ble NGT matter in OA No. 359 of 2019-PB	NGT assignment	Ongoing	35.4
55.	Project for reporting built up area with all floor plan drawings and measurements of A wing & B Wing of Project at CTS No. 628 A & 629 C, Village Kandivali Mumbai in pursuant to the Hon'ble NGT matter in OA no. 77/2019 (PB)	NGT assignment	Completed	2.26
56.	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Charkhi Dadri	NGT assignment	Completed	1.35
57.	Monitoring of Tadgam, Tithal and Jampore beaches in Valsad, Gujarat and Daman	NGT assignment	Completed	10
58.	Sampling of Cigarettes & Bidi Butts through IITR-Lucknow	NGT assignment	Completed	48
59.	Compensation to the concerned students by Delhi Legal Service Authority	NGT assignment	Completed	51
60.	General Framework For Imposing Environmental Damage Compensation - Meta-analysis study for Environmental Damage Assessment	NGT assignment	Completed	6.29
61.	Restoration plan for environment, public health and ground water around Panipat refinery	NGT assignment	Ongoing	780
62.	Testing of vegetables, edible products, soil & water on the bank of river Yamuna in Delhi	NGT assignment	Completed	2.46
63.	Damage Cost Assessment for MSW Landfill site at Bandhwari Village Gurugram	NGT assignment	Completed	8.74
64.	Validation of Right Biotic System for carrying out quick hygienic survey of rivers	NGT assignment	Completed	10.27
65.	Report on impact of operation of kiln on air pollution in NCR in pursuant to Hon'ble SC civil appeal 18213/2023	Hon'ble court assignment	Completed	1.65
66.	Report on extent of damage in & around MIDC Tarapur; restoration measures, environmental damage cost & cost of restoration, and individual accountability of CETP and polluting units in pursuant to Hon'ble NGT OA no.64/2016 (WZ)	NGT assignment	Completed	5.19
67.	Value added use of Bottom Ash of thermal power plant as partial replacement of natural sand in concrete	Research	Ongoing	0

Annexure – V

1. Financial assistance for setting of paddy straw based pellet plant:
 - In case of non-torrefied pellet plant, Financial Assistance of 40% of capital cost (maximum of Rs 28 lakh per TPH plant) with maximum financial support of Rs 1.4 crore per proposal.
 - In case of torrefaction plant, Financial Assistance of 40% of capital cost (maximum of Rs 56 lakh per TPH plant) with maximum financial support of Rs 2.8 crore per proposal.
 - Plants sanctioned - 15 plants sanctioned (13 Punjab, 01 U.P. and 01 Haryana) and 01 plant in-principle approved.
 - Total capacity of 15 sanctioned plants are 58.25 TPH (2.1 lakh tonne pellet/annum) and total cost of 15 sanctioned applications is Rs 14.15 crore, out of which Rs 6.2 crore (approx.) have been released for 06 plant projects.
2. Financial assistance for retrofitment of DG sets in Government Hospital:
 - 100% funding considered for RECD/dual fuel kits, 40% funding for procurement of new gas based generator sets
 - Proposal received from U.P., Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi. Proposal of U.P and Rajasthan has been considered while Haryana and Delhi are under consideration.
 - Proposal for retrofitment of 4 DG sets in U.P. sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 19.3 lakhs.
 - In case of Rajasthan, proposal received for 46 nos. of DG sets in 33 hospitals, but none found meeting the criteria.
 - In case of Delhi, confirmation sought from the Health Department and other departments regarding the eligible cases and proposal of Haryana is under consideration.
3. Funding of infrastructure projects (road construction, paving, procurement of anti- smog guns & road sweepers etc.) to ULBs/SPCBs:
 - 8 road projects approved to Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation (GMC) at a cost of Rs. 13.37 crore, and work is under progress.
 - Procurement of 10 Mechanical Road Sweeping Machines (MRSMs) and 06 Anti-smog guns sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 8.93 crore to UPPCB. Tender process initiated for procurement by ULBs/agencies.
 - 18 road construction/paving works at a cost of Rs. 10.61 crore sanctioned to Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).
 - Total cost of above sanctioned 03 infrastructure projects is Rs. 32.91 crore, out of which Rs. 6.68 crore have been released to GMC.
 - Funds are provided in cases where these proposals are not being considered under any other scheme of Central/ State Government or no matching funds are available.
4. Gap funding for implementation of micro-level action plans in non-attainment cities:
 - Procurement of 1 no. of Mechanical road sweeping machine (MRSMs) and 5 nos. of anti-smog guns at a cost of Rs. 4.25 crore sanctioned to Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation (GMC).
 - Procurement of 5 no. of Mechanical road sweeping machine (MRSMs) and 5 nos. of anti-smog guns at a cost of Rs. 4.025 crore sanctioned to Municipal Corporation Faridabad (MCF).
 - Procurement of 4 no. of Mechanical road sweeping machine (MRSMs) and 5 nos. of anti-smog guns at a cost of Rs. 5.605 crore sanctioned to New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA Authority).
 - Total cost of above 03 sanctioned projects relating to implementation of micro-level action plans is Rs. 13.88 crore.

Annexure-VI

Proposals kept in Abeyance

Name of ULB	Proposal Sanctioned
Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation	5 Anti-Smog Guns (ASGs) at a cost of Rs 2.25 crore
Municipal Corporation Faridabad	5 Mechanical Road Sweeping Machines (MRSMs) and 5 ASGs at a cost of Rs 4.025 crore 12 km road construction/repair works and 8 km paving works at a cost of Rs 27.1 crore
Meerut Municipal Corporation	14 km road construction/repair works at a cost of Rs 20 crore
New Delhi Municipal Corporation	5 MRSMs at a cost of Rs 14.3 crore
4 ULBs/landowning agencies in UP	6 MRSMs and 4 ASGs at a cost of Rs 5.392 crore
Total	Rs. 73.067 crores

*** Proposals of Rs. 73.067 Crore for road construction/repair & paving works and procurement of MRSMs and ASGs, received from 08 agencies in Delhi-NCR, are under consideration but have been kept in abeyance in view of concurrence awaited from Hon'ble NGT.**