

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 17**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

**National Clean Air Programme**

\*17. SHRI MANISH JAISWAL:

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

- (a) the details of the achievements regarding air quality and mitigating pollution under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and 15th Finance Commission Air Quality Performance Grants; and
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for controlling pollution and improving air quality in coal mining areas in the State of Jharkhand?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

**(a) & (b)**

A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARA (a) TO (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 17 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024 IN LOK SABHA RAISED BY SHRI MANISH JAISWAL TITLED “NATIONAL CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME”**

**(a):** National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) was launched by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in January 2019 with an aim to improve air quality in 130 cities (non-attainment cities and Million Plus Cities in 24 States/UTs through implementation of National, State and City level clean air action plans. NCAP envisages reduction in PM10 level up to 40% or achievement of national standards (60 microgram/cubic meter) by 2025-26.

City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared by all cities to implement air quality improvement measures in respective cities. These plans target air pollution sources like soil & road dust, vehicular emissions, waste burning, Construction & Demolition activities, and industrial pollution. 48 Million Plus cities are funded under XVth Finance Commission Million Plus City Challenge Fund and remaining 82 cities are funded under Control of Pollution Scheme of MoEF&CC. An amount of Rs. 11,211.13 crore was provided to cities during 2019-20 till 2023-24 under the Programme. In addition to this, NCAP emphasises on implementation of City Action Plans (CAPs) through the convergence of resources from various Central Government schemes such as Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), AMRUT, Smart City Mission, SATAT, and Nagar Van Yojana, as well as resources from State Govts./ UT administration and agencies like Municipal Corporations and Urban Development authorities.

Due to efforts made under the programme, 97 cities out of 130 cities have shown improvement in air quality in terms of annual PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in FY 2023-24 with respect to the levels of FY 2017-18. 55 cities have achieved reduction of 20% and above in PM10 levels in 2023-24 with respect to the levels of 2017-18. 18 cities have met National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM<sub>10</sub> (60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) in FY 2023-24. Details of air quality improvement of 130 cities are enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

**(b):** Steps taken by the Government for controlling air pollution in coal mining areas of Jharkhand are enclosed at **Annexure-II**.

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<b>Improvement in PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations of 130 Cities in FY 2023-24 w.r.t. FY 2017-18</b>				
<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Cities</b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in 2017-18 (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) (Annual Avg.)</b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in 2023-24 (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) (Annual Avg.)</b>	<b>Percentage reduction in PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in 2023-24 with respect to the year 2017-18 (%)</b>
1.	Varanasi	230	73	68
2.	Bareilly	207	80	61
3.	Firozabad	247	102	59
4.	Dehradun	250	109	56
5.	Dhanbad	315	138	56
6.	Tuticorin	123	57	54
7.	Nalagarh	146	68	53
8.	Moradabad	222	115	48
9.	Khurja	195	104	47
10.	Trichy	88	47	47
11.	Kohima	127	68	46
12.	Lucknow	253	137	46
13.	Kanpur	227	125	45
14.	Kadapa	75	42	44
15.	Sivasagar	73	41	44
16.	Sunder Nagar	78	44	44
17.	Agra	202	116	43
18.	Greater Mumbai	161	94	42
19.	Rishikesh	129	76	41
20.	Parwanoo	66	39	41
21.	Byrnihat	175	104	41
22.	Ahmedabad	164	98	40
23.	Ghaziabad	285	172	40
24.	Rajkot	150	92	39
25.	Jalandhar	178	111	38
26.	Raebareli	145	91	37
27.	Amritsar	189	119	37
28.	Baddi	174	111	36
29.	Kolkata	147	94	36
30.	Jammu	157	101	36
31.	Silchar	49	32	35
32.	Jodhpur	189	124	34
33.	Vijayawada	91	61	33

34.	Naya Nangal	87	59	32
35.	Dimapur	142	97	32
36.	Khanna	142	100	30
37.	Durgapur	150	106	29
38.	Kurnool	79	56	29
39.	Dera Baba Nanak	79	56	29
40.	Vadodara	133	95	29
41.	Allahabad	169	124	27
42.	Asansol	147	108	27
43.	Srinagar	132**	96	27
44.	Hyderabad	110	81	26
45.	Gorakhpur	150	111	26
46.	Ananthpur	78	59	24
47.	Ranchi	141	107	24
48.	Bengaluru	92	70	24
49.	Akola	111	85	23
50.	Durg Bhilainagar	86	68	21
51.	Surat	130	103	21
52.	Noida	229	182	21
53.	Howrah	139	111	20
54.	Thane	138	111	20
55.	Latur	82	66	20
56.	Nellore	64	52	19
57.	Gajraula	204	167	18
58.	Faridabad	229**	190	17
59.	Alwar	152	127	16
60.	Chittur	70	59	16
61.	Kala Amb	118	100	15
62.	Mandi Gobindgarh	148	126	15
63.	Amravati	102	87	15
64.	Patiala	106	91	14
65.	Jaipur	172	148	14
66.	Ongole	65	56	14
67.	Delhi	241	208	14
68.	Chandrapur	118	102	14
69.	Nashik	82	72	12
70.	Jhansi	109	96	12
71.	Sangli	87	77	11
72.	Devanagere	74	66	11
73.	Kota	139	124	11

74.	Rajahmundry	85	76	11
75.	Hubli-Dharwad	79	71	10
76.	Jabalpur	101	91	10
77.	Ujjain	93	84	10
78.	Guntur	66	61	8
79.	Kalinga Nagar	109	101	7
80.	Meerut	159	149	6
81.	Nagpur	100	94	6
82.	Eluru	72	68	6
83.	Madurai	72	68	6
84.	Damtal	55	52	5
85.	Haldia	92	87	5
86.	Anpara	175	166	5
87.	Badlapur	160	152	5
88.	Udaipur	127	121	5
89.	Sangareddy	85	81	5
90.	Chennai	66	63	5
91.	Ludhiana	168	161	4
92.	Pune	102	98	4
93.	Jamshedpur	135	130	4
94.	Kolhapur	89	86	3
95.	Ulhasnagar	153	149	3
96.	Srikakulam	69	68	1
97.	Kashipur	99	98	1
98.	Talcher	113	113	0
99.	Nalgonda	59	59	0
100.	Bhopal	112	113	-1
101.	Sagar	73	74	-1
102.	Vizianagaram	72	73	-1
103.	Chandigarh	114	116	-2
104.	Gulbarga	55	56	-2
105.	Jalna	99	102	-3
106.	Patna	172	178	-3
107.	Korba	57	59	-4
108.	Paonta Sahib	84	90	-7
109.	Gwalior	126	136	-8
110.	Raipur	70	76	-9
111.	Navi Mumbai	88	98	-11
112.	Rourkela	99	111	-12
113.	Muzaffarpur	147	168	-14
114.	Barrackpore	86	99	-15
115.	Guwahati	103	119	-16

116.	Dera Bassi	88	102	-16
117.	Solapur	81	96	-19
118.	Dewas	83	99	-19
119.	Indore	82	99	-21
120.	Vasai Virar	99	125	-26
121.	Nagaon	82	107	-30
122.	Aurangabad	75	98	-31
123.	Gaya	79	104	-32
124.	Bhubaneswar	85	114	-34
125.	Jalgaon	70	97	-39
126.	Cuttack	93	129	-39
127.	Nalbari	87	127	-46
128.	Balasore	84	124	-48
129.	Visakhapatnam	76	120	-58
130.	Angul	97	167	-72

\*\* PM<sub>10</sub> levels in the FY 2017-18 for Faridabad and Srinagar are not available. PM<sub>10</sub> levels of FY 2020-21 for Faridabad and PM<sub>10</sub> levels of FY 2018-19 for Srinagar have been considered as a baseline.

\* Patancheru non-attainment city has been merged with Hyderabad Urban Agglomeration and accordingly revised number of cities covered under NCAP is 130.

**Steps taken by the Government for controlling air pollution in coal mining areas of Jharkhand State are as follows:**

- (i). Prior Environmental Clearance (EC) is issued under EIA notification, 2006 for coal mines having an area of more than 500 Ha at Central level & for mining having an area of less than or equal to 500 Ha at State level. Several conditions regarding environmental compliance along with implementation of Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMP) are stipulated in the Environmental Clearance inter-alia include the following:
  - a) Construction of a dedicated pucca road for transportation of coal with dense plantation and development of greenbelt on either side of the road;
  - b) Installation of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations;
  - c) Installation of fog cannon (mist sprayer) and sprinklers along the coal transportation route;
  - d) Installation of dedicated mechanized system for transportation of coal through close pipe conveyor system;
  - e) Dense plantation along mine roads, on overburden dumps and non-dump areas with local species.
- (ii). Air quality standards for coalmines have been notified under environment (protection rules 1986) for pollutants, namely Suspended Particulate Matter, Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter, Sulphur Dioxide, Oxides of Nitrogen and are enforced by the respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) through consent mechanism under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- (iii). Under National Clean Air Programme launched by MoEF&CC, Dhanbad, Ranchi and Jamshedpur cities have prepared city action plan to take measures to improve air quality which includes measures for improving air quality in coal mining operations and transportation of coal.
- (iv). As part of NCAP, an amount of Rs. 279.44 crore was provided under XV<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Million Plus Cities Challenge Grant to cities of Jharkhand (Dhanbad, Ranchi, and Jamshedpur) during 2019-20 till 2023-24 to implement air quality improvement measures.
- (v). Coal mines have installed online monitoring system as per guidelines of CPCB.
- (vi). Nagar Nigam has intensified regulatory oversight of mining operations to ensure adherence to environmental standards.
- (vii). Regular advisories have been issued and consultative meetings held with mining units to promote awareness and accountability.

- (viii). 21 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations have been installed to monitor and capture air pollution from different sources including mining.
- (ix). State Pollution Control Board disseminates weekly air quality bulletin to generate awareness among public regarding air quality recorded during the week.

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