

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

Steps to Check Air Pollution

1. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:
SMT. GENIBEN NAGAJI THAKOR:
SHRI RADHESHYAM RATHIYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking any steps to check air pollution in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the rising pollution level has been checked so far, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the industrial houses and local administration to reduce pollution level in Jharsuguda and Brajrajnagar districts in Odisha and Raigarh and Tamnar districts in Chhattisgarh which have become one of the most polluted areas in the country; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to send a high-level team to suggest modern techniques specifically aimed at reducing pollution levels in the said districts, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) and (b):

Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels in targeted 130 Non-attainment Cities/ Million Plus Cities across the country through implementation of National, State and City level action plans. NCAP envisages reduction by 20-30% in PM concentration over baseline year 2017 by 2024. Target has been revised to achieve reduction in PM10 level up to 40% or achievement of national standards (60 µg/m³) by 2025-26.

Cities under NCAP have prepared city action plans to take measures to improve air quality as per the objectives of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). An amount of Rs. 11,211 crore has been provided to cities under the programme to implement city action plans. 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.

As per the annual performance assessment carried out for FY 2023-24 under the Programme, 97 cities have achieved reduction in PM10 levels in 2023-24 with respect to the levels of 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 PM10 levels in 2023-24. Further, regulatory measures taken by the Government are enclosed at **Annexure I**. Details of air quality improvement in cities covered under NCAP is enclosed at **Annexure II**.

(c) and (d):

Brajrajnagar is part of Ib Valley industrial region which was earlier categorised as Critically Polluted Area in 2009 with Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) score of 74. Further, Jharsuguda industrial area has been categorised Critically Polluted Area with CEPI score of 73.34 in 2009. State Pollution Control Board, Odisha has prepared and implemented comprehensive action plan for abatement of pollution in Ib Valley and Jharsuguda industrial region alongwith various stakeholders including local administration. Industries have installed Electrostatic Precipitators (ESP), Fume Treatment Plants, Bag Filters at the Chimneys. Internal roads inside the plant premises have been concreted. Water sprinklers have been installed at coal handling plant, material handling area and dust generating points to control fugitive dust emissions. Major industrial units have installed online Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS) & Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring stations with data connectivity to RT-DAS server of the State Pollution Control Board. Also, these industries have installed HD IP surveillance camera with data connectivity to the SPCB server to view the emission from stacks and fugitive emission of the plant from remote location. Due to implementation of the said action plan, the CEPI score of IB Valley has been brought down to 58.85 in 2024. Further, CEPI score of Jharsuguda has been brought down to 37.2 in 2018. These regions are currently out of Critically Polluted Area.

Tamnar industrial area in Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh has major industrial activities such as coal mining, and thermal power plants which are regulated through grant of environmental clearance under EIA Notification 2006 and consent issued under The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 by Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board (CECB).

Industries in Raigarh District have set up air pollution control measures, such as electrostatic precipitators, bag filters, scrubber, water sprinkling system, fog cannons, wheel washing system, greenbelt. Five ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up in the region to monitor air quality. Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board issued directions under Section 31A of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and imposed Environmental Compensation to the industries in the region for violation of environmental norms.

Regulatory Measures taken by the Government to control pollution:

- i. Emission standards for more than 80 industries have been notified
- ii. Emission standards recently notified/revised:
 - a) Thermal power plants
 - b) Diesel/petrol/CNG generator sets
 - c) Industrial boilers
 - d) Lime Kilns
 - e) Brick kilns and conversion of zig-zag technology
 - f) Calcinated petcoke industry
 - g) Hot mix plants
- iii. Leapfrogging to Bharat Stage-VI (BS-VI) emissions norms from 1st April 2020
- iv. Vehicle Scrapping Policy, Rules for Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities and Automated Testing Stations by MoRTH
- v. Waste management rules for solid waste, plastic waste, hazardous waste, e-waste, battery waste, biomedical waste, 100% ash utilisation by Thermal Power Plants
- vi. Market-based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations introduced for waste categories, viz. plastic packaging, e-waste, battery waste, waste tyres & used oil
- vii. 12 identified Single-Use Plastics (SUP) having high littering potential and low utility were banned from 1st July, 2022
- viii. Mandate for utilisation of minimum 5% of crop residue along with coal (pellets/brickettes) in thermal power plants in NCR and adjoining areas

Annexure – II

Improvement in PM10 concentrations of 130 Cities in FY 2023-24 w.r.t. FY 2017-18				
S. No.	Cities	PM10 concentrations in 2017-18 (µg/m3) (Annual Avg.)	PM10 concentrations in 2023-24 (µg/m3) (Annual Avg.)	Percentage reduction in PM10 concentrations in 2023-24 with respect to the year 2017-18 (%)
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

** PM10 levels in the FY 2017-18 for Faridabad and Srinagar are not available. PM10 levels of FY 2020-21 for Faridabad and PM10 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.
