

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2214**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

**Pollution in Jharkhand**

2214. SHRI DULU MAHATO:

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

- (a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the land pollution in the State of Jharkhand particularly Dhanbad District;
- (b) the details of the plans initiated by the Government to maintain ecological balance in between urbanization and industrialisation in the said State particularly, Dhanbad district;
- (c) the measures being taken to improve the air quality and the positive impact that are likely to have on health;
- (d) the Government schemes which can be effective in curtailing the pollution in the State of Jharkhand including Dhanbad district and other industrial areas; and
- (e) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to deal with climate change in the State of Jharkhand specially in the context of industrialization?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e):**

To curb down land pollution in the State of Jharkhand District Environment Management Plan and District Task Force have been constituted at district level under the chairmanship of concerned Deputy Commissioner. District Environment Management Plan has been formulated at district level to monitor and manage the issues pertaining to Environment & Ecology.

Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB) as a state regulatory body ensures the satisfactory compliance of provisions laid down under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

JSPCB has also taken a formidable step to improve the air quality under the mandates of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NCAP) and guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Currently 3 major cities of the State i.e. Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Dhanbad are being covered under NCAP. Measures being taken under NCAP to improve the air quality in these cities are mentioned below.

## **RANCHI:**

There are three pillars of action that have been followed and will continue to achieve clean air in the city:

### **1. Infrastructure development**

- Paving and black toping of roads
- Creation of green patches

### **2. Dust Re-Suspension Control**

- Regular spraying of roads and public areas by using 04 nos. Anti-smog gun
- Regular sweeping by using 02 nos. of Mechanical Sweeper Machines
- Regular cleaning of drains by using 02 nos. of Super sucker machine
- Controlling dispersed sources of pollution through compliance check & random audits

### **3. Citizen Engagement and Awareness:**

- Community engagement events
- Educational campaigns with Collaborations with schools, NGOs, and local communities for public awareness.

## **JAMSHEDPUR:**

The details of achievements regarding air quality and mitigating pollution under NCAP:-

- Drone Monitoring of City.
- Civic Awareness & Educational Initiatives.
- Awareness Session on Healthy Air, Healthy Planet at Tata Cummins Pvt. Ltd.
- Meeting with various Stakeholders.
- Capacity building of ULB officials.
- Seminar on Source Segregation with School Students.
- Seminar on Home Composting with SHGs.
- Greening and Afforestation.
- Green Area development by Mango Municipal Corporation.
- Air Quality Monitoring.
- Mechanical Street Sweeper.
- Water Sprinklers.
- Wet waste Management.

## **DHANBAD:**

**A. Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring:** Dhanbad has seen significant advancements in its air quality-monitoring infrastructure, with an increase in the number of monitoring stations strategically placed across the city. These stations generate real-time air quality data, empowering residents to stay informed about pollution levels. To complement this, health advisories are regularly disseminated, offering guidelines to mitigate the adverse effects of air pollution, particularly for vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and individuals with respiratory or cardiovascular condition.

### **1. Installation of 10 CAAQMS stations and 5 LED display boards:**

S. No.	Station Name	Location
1	Luby Circular Road	Golf Ground, Luby Circular Road
2	IT ISM	IIT ISM Campus
3	Kolakusma	Vibha Bhawan, Kolakusma

4	Bhuda	Vibha Bhwan, Bhuda
5	Chasnala	Vibha bhawan, Chasnala
6	Mohalbani	Mohalbani Samshan Ghat
7	Baniahir	Baniahir, Nigam Anchal Office(Jharia)
8	Bhagabandh	Samudaye Bhawan, Bhagabandh
9	Lilori park	Lilori Park, Katras
10	Birsa Munda Park	Birsa Munda Park

**5 no. of LED Display Boards:**

S.No.	Location
1	Main Gate, DMC Office
2	Bank More, Dhanbad
3	IIT ISM Main gate
4	Katras More, Jharia
5	Birsa Munda Park, near new DMC office

**B. Efforts to Control Mining-Related Pollution:** Understanding the air pollution and health challenges associated with mining activities, Dhanbad Nagar Nigam has implemented several proactive measures:

**Adoption of Sustainable Mining Practices:** Dhanbad Nagar Nigam is working towards sustainable mining practice in the district. Efforts are underway to introduce and enforce environmentally sustainable mining techniques aimed at reducing the dust emission and minimizing ecological degradation.

**Commissioning of a study on Mining:**

Dhanbad Nagar Nigam has commissioned a comprehensive study with the IOR under NCAP, Indian School of Mines(ISM), now IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, focusing on:

**1. Compliance Evaluation:** Assessing current compliance levels within mining operations and identifying areas for improvement.

**2. Sustainable Practices:** Developing innovative and actionable recommendations for environmentally sustainable mining methods that align with both ecological and economic goals.

**Stricter Compliance Measures:** The Nagar Nigam is intensifying regulatory oversight of mining operations, ensuring adherence to stringent environmental standards. Regular advisories and consultative meetings with mining units and JSPCB are conducted to promote awareness and accountability, ensuring effective compliance with air pollution norms.

**C. Best Practice adopted by the City/ULB:**

**1. Infrastructure development**

- Paving and black toping of roads
- Creation of green patches and vertical gardens throughout the city to increase green cover
- Construction of Electric Crematorium at Mohalbani and Matkuria Shamshan Ghats.

## **2. Dust Re-Suspension Control**

- Regular spraying of roads and public areas to suppress dust emissions using 7 Nos. of water sprinkler.
- Scheduled sweeping activities to minimize dust accumulation on streets and public spaces using 8 Nos. of Mechanical Road sweepers.

## **3. Citizen Engagement and Awareness**

- Conducting Public Awareness Program "Paryavaran Utsav-2024" to educate citizens about the importance of clean air and the actions they can take to contribute to clean air initiatives,
- Organizing Workshops and Conferences and collaborations among stakeholders to provide opportunities for knowledge-sharing and collective problem-solving,
- Collaborating with Schools, NGOs, and Local Communities to mobilize collective action toward cleaner air.
- Launched a citizen volunteer program "Vayu Mitra" aimed at creating awareness and empowering citizens to work together towards achieving clean air in the city.
- Regular issuance and dissemination of weekly air quality bulletins, depicting the air quality recorded in 7 days.

### **As per the report received from BCCL for improvement of Air quality around mining area, Dhanbad.**

1. The Sprinkling arrangements have been strengthened at siding and permanent transport routes by providing mist sprinklers, fog canon (trolley and truck mounted) in addition to conventional mobile sprinklers.
2. The Drilling machines are equipped with Dust collector system and water injection system drilling.
3. Covered transportation of coal: Covered Transportation is being done. All Contracts of coal Transport provided with condition of covered transportation only.
4. Sweeping of road: Mechanical Sweeper is operational along with manual sweeping of roads to reduce road silt content.
5. The Air Pollution Monitoring Mechanism has been strengthened with installing of online PM10 Analyzers and Routine air quality monitoring being done through A NABL accredited laboratory M/s CMPDI Ltd.
6. Wheel washing mechanism has been provided along with overhead sprinklers to cool down the fiery coal and hot overburden transport as Jharia coalfield is affected with fire.
7. Green belt development for core as well as buffer zone is being carried out with Eco restoration/Afforestation over 1631.53 ha and 51.85 ha outside leasehold area (within Jharkhand).
8. BCCL carried out the Source Apportionment Study through CSIR-NEERI in FY 2019-20 and submitted its final report in FY 2022-23. Findings of the study concluded that Coal Mining contributed only 6-8% in the pollutant load of Particulate Matter (PM) for Jharia Coalfields, whereas, the major contribution was from Transport, Road Re-suspension and Domestic Burning.

**Steps proposed to be taken/being taken:**

1. Four Mechanical sweepers have been procured and under delivery/ commissioning process that will further strengthen the sweeping and cleaning of roads.
2. Trolley mounted Fog canons have been procured and under delivery/ commissioning process thus the dust suppression capacity has been augmented.
3. Cement Concrete Road and Pavement quality Control (PQC) road construction for coal transport is being undertaken to reduce fugitive dust emission.
4. Greenbelt development as a regular process is being carried out every year as mandated by Ministry. Along with it BCCL has also booked plantation of 150 ha under Green Credit Program in Jharkhand.
5. Under Good mining Practices new technology mining like High wall Mining, Ripper dozer mining is being implemented to reduce emissions from drilling and blasting with increase in coal conservation.

As a cumulative results of various steps taken for the improvement of air quality is expected to yield positive impact on the health of citizens including reduction in vulnerability of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

The central funded schemes for curtailing the pollution which are currently under implementation in the State of Jharkhand including Dhanbad district and other industrial areas are as follows:-

- (i) National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMMP)
- (ii) National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)
- (iii) National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP).
- (iv) Namami Gange Programme.
- (v) Assistance for abatement of Pollution (AAP).

In addition to above, the Government of Jharkhand has prepared the Jharkhand Action Plan on Climate Change to deal with Climate Change in the State which is available in public domain at <https://moef.gov.in/uploads/2017/08/Jharkhand.pdf>.

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