GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1377
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2025

Air Pollution Mitigation in Industrial Areas

1377. SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

(a) the details of the measures taken/being taken by the Government to combat air pollution in industrial areas of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Visakhapatnam;
(b) the impact of these measures on the health of local communities, especially those from economically weaker sections; and
(c) the details of plans to promote clean energy adoption in these industrial clusters?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c):

Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country including Visakhapatnam city in Andhra Pradesh. NCAP targets to achieve reduction in Particulate Matter level up to 40% from the levels of FY 19-20 or achievement of national standards (60 $\mu g/m^3$) by 2025-26.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has identified 130 million plus/non-attainment cities (cities exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), consecutively for five years) including 13 cities namely Guntur, Kurnool, Nellore, Vijayawada, Vishakhapatnam, Anantapur, Chitoor, Eluru, Kadapa, Ongole, Rajahmundry, Srikakulam, and Vizianagaram cities of Andhra Pradesh. City Specific Clean Air Action Plans have been prepared and rolled out for implementation in all these 130 non-attainment/million plus cities to improve the air quality.

CPCB issued directions to all SPCBs/PCC to conduct the CEPI monitoring in all Severely Polluted Areas (SPAs) and Critically Polluted Areas (CPAs) during pre-monsoon and post monsoon seasons of every year based on the revised CEPI concept, 2016 to evaluate CEPI scores.

Further, CPCB classifies various sectors/activities under colour coded categories based on their

pollution potential (Classification-2025). The Classification-2025 includes incentive mechanism for the units in any sector that adopt environment friendly practices such as use of 100% cleaner fuel/renewal energy etc. and ensuring continuous compliance.

The State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Conrol Committees (SPCBs/ PCCs) impose emission standards on the industries for granting prior consent (Consent to Establish/ Consent to Operate), as per the provisions of the Air Act, 1981, apart from the Water Act, 1974.

During 2020, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) has prepared action plan to mitigate environmental pollution. In addition, APPCB has imposed stringent standards on the industries operating in Andhra Pradesh and, especially, the Visakhapatnam Industrial area, in respect of, inter alia, Particulate Matter, Sulphur Dioxide and Flourine.

All the industries located in Pharma city, Parawada and APIIC, Atchuthapuram areas have installed bag filter irrespective of boiler capacity and boiler capacity > 10 TPH have installed online emission monitoring system, which is connected with APPCB to verify the real time data. If any non-compliance is found, alert is sent to the defaulting industry for rectification.

Andhra Pradesh has adopted clean energy initiatives, inter alia, through the following measures:

i. There are 250 major industries located in Visakhapatnam & Anakapalli districts. As per the government policy, the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has laid pipelines for supplying PNG to the industries located in Atchuthapuram & Parawada. The IOCL is supplying PNG to 10 industries in Duvvada, Atchthapuram & Parawada.

ii. M/s. Coromandel International Ltd., Sriharipuram, Malkapuram (PO), Visakhapatnam District is generating 21 MW power from the waste heat recovery of the Sulphuric Acid Plants.

iii. M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (Visakh Refinery), Malkapuram, Visakhapatnam is using Fuel oil of Sulphur content less than 0.5% and Fuel gas of sulphur content less than 100ppm is used as fuel for furnaces. The refinery uses fuels with low sulphur content like Low Sulphur Heavy Stock (LSHS), Naphtha and treated Fuel Gas (FG) to maintain SOx emissions within norms. Sulphur Recovery Units (SRUs) are also installed to recover sulphur for sour gases and thus reduce the SOx emissions. Carbon monoxide (CO) boilers are installed to eliminate CO emissions. Amine treatment facilities are provided in Crude Distillation Units (CDUs) to treat the hot-well off gases. Flare Gas Recovery Units (FGRUs) are installed to control flare loss. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) removal system is provided in Integrated Effluent Treatment Plant (IETP) to eliminate VOC emissions. The HPCL has installed & operating green hydrogen project (Demo Plant) – 370 TPA.

iv. RINL is generating 15-20 MW power from waste heat recovery of coke oven gas, 7-10 MW power from waste pressure recovery of blast furnace gas, 100 MW power from waste gas recovery of blast furnace. LD gas generated is used as fuel to the rolling mills.

v. M/s. Kanoria Chemicals & Industries Ltd., Plot No. 32, J.N. Pharma City, Parawada, Anakapalli District has installed Waste Heat recovery Boilers of 8 TPH & 1 TPH.

vi. M/s. Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Visakhapatnam has installed & is operating 10 MW solar power generation.

vii. M/s. Simhadri Super Thermal Power Project (Stage I & II), NTPC Limited, Parawada, Anakapalli District has installed and is operating 25 MW Floating solar power plant on raw water reservoir inside the plant area.

viii. Waste to Energy plant was established & operated by Jindal Urban Waste Management in Visakhapatnam covering 27 ULBs by utilizing solid waste as fuel source for generating electrical power of 1372 TPD.

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