

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1607**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026

**Independent Evaluation of National Clean Air Programme**

1607. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any independent evaluation of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) since its launch to assess its effectiveness in reducing air pollution in Delhi and adjoining NCR districts; and
- (b) if so, the details of such evaluation, including the percentage reduction achieved in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations between 2019 and 2025?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) and (b):** An independent evaluation of Control of Pollution Scheme in which National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) is also one of the component, has been conducted in December, 2020 and August, 2025. The latest evaluation report observed that NCAP aims for sustained air-quality management through infrastructure, local action plans, and institutional mechanisms. The program has demonstrated measurable progress in strengthening India's air-quality management framework and improving ambient air quality across several non-attainment cities.

The focused and coordinated actions by 130 cities under NCAP have shown positive results with 103 cities showing reduction in PM<sub>10</sub> concentration in 2024-25 with respect to 2017-18, 64 cities have shown reduction in PM<sub>10</sub> levels by more than 20% with respect to base year 2017-18 and 25 of these cities have achieved a reduction of more than 40%. A total of 22 Cities have met National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and have PM<sub>10</sub> Concentrations less than 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Further, out of the 130 cities covered under NCAP, 40 cities have shown a reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels in 2024 as compared to 2019; 56 cities have met the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (annual standard: 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) in 2024.

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