

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 233
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

National Clean Air Programme

233. SMT. ROOPKUMARI CHOUDHARY:
SMT. SANJNA JATAV:

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

- (a) the details of objectives of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) along with the number of cities targeted thereunder and the timeframe fixed therein;
- (b) the number of non-attainment cities identified under the NCAP 2019 along with the number of cities wherein approved City Action Plans have been implemented;
- (c) the number of cities or towns which are still outside the purview of NCAP or any approved plan and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that a major portion of the NCAP funds has been utilised on short-term measures such as Road dust control, Mechanical sweeping and Water sprinkling;
- (e) the reasons for long-term measure such as industrial emission control, clean energy, transportation and awareness campaign getting lower priority along with the remedial measures taken by the Government to correct the said imbalance;
- (f) the policy and timeline for including PM2.5 in monitoring and target setting; and
- (g) the major achievements accomplished so far under the NCAP and the details of monitoring, performance evaluation, penalty and incentive mechanism in force through the Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities (PRANA) portal?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : National Clean Air Programme was launched by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in 2019 with an aim to improve air quality in 130 cities (Non-Attainment and Million-Plus cities) in 24 States/UTs through implementation of National, State and City level action plans by engaging all stakeholders, for the period 2019-20 to 2025-26.

Under NCAP, 130 cities have been identified based on the criteria of Non-Attainment of Air Quality Standards and cities with Million plus population. Out of the said 130 cities, 122 Cities are identified as non-attainment cities. As per the data furnished by cities in PRANA portal, all cities have prepared City Action Plans (CAPs) for implementing air quality control measures.

(d) & (e): Funding under NCAP is a critical gap funding. In addition funding for implementation of City Action Plans (CAPs) is mobilized through the convergence of resources from various Central Government schemes. Action plan under NCAP consists of implementation of different measures, which also involves short term as well as long-term measures like end-to-end pavement of road, greenery development, greening of open areas, plans to decongest traffic corridors, development of urban micro forest including Miyawaki plantation, improvement of traffic junctions for decongestion, conversion of crematorium towards clean fuels, establishment of EV Charging Stations. Moreover, guidelines issued under NCAP for funding under Air Quality Challenge Method promotes establishment of C&D and solid Waste processing plants, material recovery facilities, Automated Testing Station, Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities.

Further, one of the key activities identified under NCAP emphasize on IEC activities and awareness generation through MY Bharat portal and also other outreach activities like plastic free initiatives, tree plantation, foster public awareness through multiple platforms like DISHA, My Bharat, World Environment Day, Swachh Vayu Diwas, Air Pollution Awareness Week etc.

City action plans have incorporated the Mission LiFE activities for providing awareness to citizens including involvement of youth through 'Meri Yuva Bharat' portal of Department of Youth Affairs.

As per the findings of various source apportionment studies undertaken by Cities, road dust has been identified as one of the major contributors to PM₁₀ concentrations and hence, many cities have undertaken focused measures to control road dust emissions.

(f): NCAP focuses on PM₁₀, however as a subset of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} is inherently addressed through the broader regulatory framework and implementation strategy aimed at reducing particulate matter levels overall. A wide range of targeted actions to address all sources of PM_{2.5} emissions has been included in the Clean Air City Action Plans.

(g): The focused actions by 130 cities under NCAP have shown positive results with 103 cities showing reduction in PM₁₀ concentration in 2024-25 with respect to 2017-18, 64 cities have shown reduction in PM₁₀ 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 NAAQS and have PM₁₀ Concentrations less than 60 µg/m³. Air quality improvement details in 130 cities are enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

To ensure monitoring and performance evaluation of the scheme, NCAP consists of structured monitoring mechanism at different level like Steering, Monitoring, and Implementation Committees at the National level (Apex Committee under Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, EFCC), State (under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary), and District/City levels (Implementation and Monitoring Committee) under the Chairmanship of District Collector/Municipal Commissioner.

Further, NCAP has also been brought under the purview of State and District-level DISHA Committees, enhancing accountability and convergence. Further, to provide overall guidance and coordination for implementation of the National Action Plan under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) through convergence of schemes and programs of Central Government and State Government, Urban Local Bodies and other development authorities/agencies, a National

Coordination Committee has been constituted by MoEFCC in July, 2025. These committees periodically monitor and evaluate the progress of implementation of action plans.

Moreover, a comprehensive web-based portal, PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities) has been operationalized for program management, monitoring, and implementation of NCAP. PRANA portal captures both physical progress (such as clean air action plan proposed, number of activities completed, meetings held) and financial progress (funds allocation, released and utilized) across all 130 cities.

As an incentive mechanism, under NCAP, cities receive performance-linked grants to implement their action plans based on their achievements during preceding year. Further, better-performing cities are appreciated and recognized every year through awards under different categories, during Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan celebration ceremony.

AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN 130 CITIES

S. No.	Improvement in PM ₁₀ in 2024-25 w.r.t FY 2017-18 (%)	No. of Cities	Cities
1	Above 40	25	Gujarat (2): Rajkot, Surat; Himachal Pradesh (1): Nalagarh; Jammu & Kashmir (1): Srinagar; Jharkhand (1): Dhanbad; Maharashtra (3): Badlapur, Greater Mumbai, Ulhasnagar; Meghalaya (1): Byrnihat; Nagaland (1): Kohima; Punjab (2): Amritsar, Jalandhar; Tamil Nadu (1): Tuticorin; Uttar Pradesh (11): Agra, Allahabad, Bareilly, Firozabad, Ghaziabad, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Moradabad, Raebareli, Varanasi; Uttarakhand (1): Dehradun
2	20-40	39	Andhra Pradesh (6): Ananthpur, Kadapa, Kurnool, Nellore, Rajahmundry, Vijayawada; Assam (2): Nagaon, Sivasagar; Gujarat (2): Ahmedabad, Vadodara; Haryana (1): Faridabad; Himachal Pradesh (4): Baddi, Kala Amb, Parwanoo, Sunder Nagar; Jammu & Kashmir (1): Jammu; Jharkhand (1): Ranchi; Karnataka (3): Bengaluru, Devanagere, Hubli-Dharwad; Madhya Pradesh (1): Jabalpur; Maharashtra (3): Akola, Amravati, Thane; Nagaland (1): Dimapur; Punjab (4): Dera Baba Nanak, Khanna, Ludhiana, Naya Nangal; Rajasthan (2): Alwar, Jodhpur; Tamil Nadu (1): Trichy; Telangana (1): Hyderabad; Uttar Pradesh (3): Gajraula, Gorakhpur, Noida; Uttarakhand (1): Rishikesh; West Bengal (2): Howrah, Kolkata
3	Above 10 to less than 20	20	Andhra Pradesh (3): Chittoor, Eluru, Ongole; Bihar (1): Muzaffarpur; Chhattisgarh (1): Durg-Bhilainagar; Delhi (1): Delhi; Madhya Pradesh (1): Ujjain; Maharashtra (2): Latur, Sangli; Punjab (2): Mandi-Gobindgarh, Patiala; Rajasthan (2): Jaipur, Kota; Tamil Nadu (2): Chennai, Madurai; Uttar Pradesh (3): Anpara, Khurja, Meerut; West Bengal (2): Asansol, Haldia
4	Less than 10	19	Andhra Pradesh (1): Guntur; Assam (2): Guwahati, Nalbari; Bihar (1): Patna; Himachal Pradesh (1): Paonta Sahib; Karnataka (1): Gulbarga/Kalaburgi; Madhya Pradesh (2): Bhopal, Gwalior; Maharashtra (7): Chandrapur, Jalna, Kolhapur, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Vasai-Virar; Odisha (1): Cuttack; Rajasthan (1): Udaipur; Uttarakhand (1): Kashipur; West Bengal (1): Durgapur
5	Nil	27	Andhra Pradesh (3): Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram; Assam (1): Silchar; Bihar (1): Gaya; Chandigarh (1): Chandigarh; Chhattisgarh (2): Korba, Raipur; Himachal Pradesh (1): Damtal; Jharkhand (1): Jamshedpur; Madhya Pradesh (3): Dewas, Indore, Sagar; Maharashtra (4): Aurangabad, Jalgaon, Navi Mumbai, Solapur; Odisha (6): Angul, Balasore, Bhubaneswar, Kalinga Nagar, Rourkela, Talcher; Punjab (1): Dera Bassi; Telangana (2): Nalgonda, Sangareddy; West Bengal (1): Barrackpore