

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 437
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

Performance of Smog Tower

437. SHRI RAMVIR SINGH BIDHURI:
SHRI ARUN GOVIL:

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

- (a) whether air purifier, smog tower were installed in Delhi recently to reduce air pollution and it is reported that one smog tower is capable of purifying six lakh cubic meters of air and reduces pollution in the area by up to 75%;
- (b) the total cost of building and operating the smog tower and whether any study has been conducted on the functioning of the said towers;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcomes thereof; and
- (d) whether the outcomes are favourable, if so, the timeline for installation of smog tower in Meerut-Hapur Lok Sabha Constituency keeping in view that Meerut ranks among the most polluted cities in the country in terms of environment and pollution?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A smog tower was installed at Anand Vihar, Delhi by the Central Government. The Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that another smog tower has been installed at Connaught Place.

The smog tower installed at Anand Vihar was constructed at a capital cost of Rs. 13.59 crore, and an expenditure of Rs. 10.27 lakh per month is required for its operation. Further, the smog tower installed at Connaught Place has a capital cost of Rs. 22 crore, with an operational cost of Rs. 2 crore per annum.

Performance evaluation studies on the functioning of the smog towers installed at Anand Vihar and Connaught Place were conducted by IIT Bombay in association with IIT Delhi. It has been reported that the smog towers at Anand Vihar and Connaught Place have shown a reduction of 20% and 13%, respectively, in PM2.5 and PM10 levels within a radius of 400 metres of the smog towers.

Meerut city is covered under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and is funded under the XVth Finance Commission Million-Plus City Challenge Fund as an air quality performance-linked grant. An amount of Rs. 187.99 crore has been released to Meerut city as critical gap funding for implementation of air quality improvement measures by the Urban Local Body and developmental authorities.

As a result of the interventions undertaken under NCAP, Meerut city recorded 277 Good Days (AQI <200) in 2025 as compared to 203 Good Days in 2022. Further, Meerut city has shown a reduction of 16.4% in annual average PM10 concentrations in FY 2024-25 (133 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) as compared to FY 2017-18 (159 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).
