

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 199
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

Allocation of NCAP Funds to Bihar

199. SHRI SUDAMA PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of recent scientific studies indicating that parts of Bihar have emerged as hotspots of Particulate Matter (PM) pollution in the Indo-Gangetic Plain;
- (b) if so, the findings of the Government's assessment thereof;
- (c) whether any special action plan has been prepared for Bihar under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to address biomass burning and rural air pollution; and
- (d) the funds allocated and released to Bihar during the last three years under NCAP and other air quality improvement programmes, along with the outcomes achieved?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): As reported by the Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB), no district in Bihar has been identified as hotspot districts within the Indo-Gangetic Plain region. Further, BSPCB has informed that air quality assessment in the State of Bihar indicates an improving trend in PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} levels over recent years. The State-wide annual average PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations are provided at **Annexure-I**

CPCB identified Non-attainment Cities (NACs) across the country that have failed to meet the National Ambient Air quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM₁₀ for five consecutive years. 03 NACs have been identified in the State of Bihar namely, Patna, Gaya and Muzaffarpur, and have been included under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for implementing air quality improvement measures. These cities have prepared City Clean Air Action Plans to take measures to address soil & road dust, vehicular emissions, construction & demolition activities, biomass burning and industrial pollution.

District/ City level Implementation and Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of District Collector/ Municipal Commissioner monitors the implementation of City clean air action plans.

Further, Bihar State Pollution Control Board has prepared the "Bihar State Action Plan for Prevention & Control of Air Pollution" as per the CPCB's "Guidelines for Formulation of State Action Plan", which includes specific and comprehensive action to address emission from burning of waste, burning of agri-residues and household emissions to improve air quality in the State.

State level Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary and Air Quality Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary, Environment Department periodically monitors the implementation of State Action Plan prepared under NCAP

During the last three years, air quality performance based incentive grant of Rs. 80.21 crore has been released to Patna, Gaya and Muzaffarpur cities of Bihar under NCAP to implement air quality improvement measures. The details of funds provided to the Cities of Bihar during the last three years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26) are enclosed at **Annexure-II**.

Air quality improvement in terms of reduction in PM₁₀ levels during FY 2025-26 as compared to PM₁₀ levels of FY 2017-18 for Muzaffarpur, Gaya and Patna cities under NCAP is enclosed at **Annexure III**.

Annexure I**State-wide annual average PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations during FY 2022-23 to FY 2025-26
in Bihar**

Year	PM₁₀ (µg/m³)	PM_{2.5} (µg/m³)
2022-23	186.2	89.0
2023-24	145.3	64.9
2024-25	117.8	54.0
2025-26	83.51	42.24

Annexure II**Details of funds released under NCAP to the Cities of Bihar during the last three years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26)****(Amount in Rs. crore)**

Sl. No.	City	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	Grand Total
1	Muzaffarpur	5.43	8.61	9.85	23.89
2	Patna	-	-	30.39	30.39
3	Gaya	5.39	13.06	7.48	25.93
Total					80.21

Annexure-III**Improvement in PM₁₀ concentrations in Cities of Bihar under NCAP in FY 2025-26 as compared to FY 2017-18**

Sl. No.	City	2017-2018	2025-26	% improvement in 2025-26 w.r.t. FY 2017-18
		Average concentration (F.Y.) of PM₁₀ (µg/m³)	Average concentration (F.Y.) of PM₁₀ (µg/m³)	
1	Muzaffarpur	147	73	50.3
2	Patna	172	112	34.9
3	Gaya	79	97	-22.8
