

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 609**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2018

**Level of Air Pollution**

609. SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:  
SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM:  
SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:  
DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK":  
SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI V. ELUMALAI:  
SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA:  
SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government monitors the level of air pollution regularly in various cities including Delhi and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether air pollution has increased in Delhi and other States of the country during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details of the level of pollution in major cities of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Delhi is world's most polluted city and Mumbai is fourth, according to air quality data compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO) and if so, the details thereof along with the Government reaction thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has authorized certain officers to monitor and keep check on the increasing air pollution in Delhi and if so, the details thereof along with the extent to which success has been achieved by such officers in controlling pollution; and
- (e) whether there has been reports of violations of norms by certain officers in this regard and if so, the action taken thereon along with the details of steps taken to control air pollution and promote use of CNG in Delhi and other areas which regularly report high level of air pollution?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) & (b) The ambient air quality is being monitored at 703 ambient air quality monitoring stations covering 307 cities/towns in 29 States and 6 Union Territories under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Under NAMP, three air pollutants viz., Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) are being monitored at all the locations. Ambient air quality data for 46 million plus cities including Delhi is attached at Annexure-I

Analysis of data of 42 cities shows that SO<sub>2</sub> levels were within the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in all the cities during 2015-17. With respect to NO<sub>2</sub>, 14 cities showed an increasing trend, 12 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 15 cities showed a fluctuating trend and 1 city revealed steady concentration. With respect to PM<sub>10</sub>, 12 cities showed an increasing trend, 7 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 23 cities showed a fluctuating trend. With respect to PM<sub>2.5</sub>, trends are available for 11 cities. Out of 11 cities, 02 cities showed an increasing trend, 02 cities showed a decreasing concentration, 07 cities showed a fluctuating trend.

- (c) The World Health Organization (WHO) released the WHO Global Ambient Air Quality Database (update 2018). The 2018 version of the WHO ambient (outdoor) air quality database consists mainly of urban air quality data annual means for PM<sub>10</sub> and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub>, covering more than 4000 human settlements in 108 countries for the years from 2008 to 2016. WHO does not rank countries / cities on the basis of air pollution data. However, arranging WHO database for measured PM<sub>2.5</sub> in descending order, Delhi comes in 6th position and Mumbai in 97th position. Arranging WHO database for measured PM<sub>10</sub> in descending order, Delhi comes in 7th position and Mumbai in 170th position. These two cities are in the list of non-attainment cities.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has formulated National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for abatement of air pollution in the country. The NCAP aspires to strengthen the ongoing government initiatives targeted towards prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution. It lays down a comprehensive framework for management of air quality in the country by augmentation of existing air quality monitoring network and devising air quality management plans for non-attainment cities based on detailed source apportionment (identification of pollution sources) studies for each city.

- (d) In Delhi, 40 teams from Central Pollution Control Board were deployed to various parts of Delhi for providing ground level feedback about sources causing air pollution and on the level of implementation of actions identified under Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). The field visits commenced on September 01, 2017. A total of 388 inspections have been conducted. On the spot reporting of polluting sources with location details to Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) was done by teams. In addition, weekly summarized reports on field feedback were also sent to DPCC for further necessary action.
- (e) According to reports submitted by teams & cumulative analysis of weekly feedback reports, construction activity & open storage of construction material, traffic congestion, dumping of construction & solid waste, waste burning and road dust resuspension have been reiterated as major sources of air pollution in Delhi.

The Government has taken several steps to address air pollution which *inter alia*, include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending, launching of National Air Quality index; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards from 1st April, 2018 in Delhi and from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 in rest of the country; notification of

Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; promotion of public transport network; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; collection of Environmental Protection Charge on more than 2000 CC diesel vehicles; etc.

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## Annexure-I

## Air quality status of million plus cities for 2015, 2016 and 2017

(Annual average in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

State	Cities	2015				2016				2017			
		SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Uttar Pradesh	Agra	4	22	186	-	5	22	198	-	4	23	193	-
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	13	21	89	29	14	27	108	34	13	29	114	37
Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	4	26	250	-	4	37	196	-	4	40	140	-
Punjab	Amritsar	11	30	148	-	12	29	194	-	11	27	168	-
Maharashtra	Aurangabad	13	40	83	-	14	39	92	-	10	33	83	-
Karnataka	Bangalore	6	20	119	54	3	31	103	51	2	31	91	46
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	3	23	158	105	3	15	89	27	4	15	93	41
Tamilnadu	Chennai	13	20	59	22	10	18	65	25	11	16	66	-
Tamilnadu	Coimbatore	4	25	47	30	6	24	59	35	5	26	49	35
Delhi	Delhi	5	65	220	95	7	66	278	118	7	68	241	106
Jharkhand	Dhanbad	12	37	168	-	15	37	226	-	15	37	238	-
Maharashtra	Dombivali/Ambernath	20	53	104	56	26	76	128	-	27	70	177	-
Haryana	Faridabad	15	74	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	23	37	260	77	15	28	235	-	22	35	283	-
Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	10	14	125	73	10	14	96	52	10	17	110	47
West Bengal	Howrah	15	43	123	-	10	59	119	67	11	61	91	55
Telangana	Hydrabad	4	23	93	-	4	27	100	49	6	34	120	52
Madhya Pradesh	Indore	11	20	97	40	11	20	95	54	11	21	80	43
Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	9	28	90	-	10	23	71	32	10	21	74	23
Rajasthan	Jaipur	7	36	171	-	8	33	199	-	8	31	178	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	6	24	152	-	6	23	168	-	6	22	182	-
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	6	36	201	-	7	39	217	-	7	45	224	-
West Bengal	Kolkata	7	56	105	55*	4	49	113	70	4	37	109	64
Rajasthan	Kota	6	34	134	-	7	30	109	-	8	27	132	-
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	8	28	169	-	8	27	214	-	8	26	247	105
Punjab	Ludhiana	11	27	139	-	11	25	139	-	9.5	28	162	-
Tamilnadu	Madurai	13	25	64	32	15	24	76	38	14	23	67	-
Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	6	39	144	-	7	55	157	-	7	52	153	-

State	Cities	2015				2016				2017			
		SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Maharashtra	Mumbai	4	25	107	26	6	30	119	-	3	18	151	-
Maharashtra	Nagpur	10	25	90	-	16	26	118	-	9	28	95	-
Maharashtra	Nashik	15	23	78	-	13	27	85	-	12	22	79	-
Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai	18	42	125	-	19	46	118	-	22	45	105	-
Bihar	Patna	4	41	204	-	4	32	212	-	5	39	156	-
Maharashtra	PimpriChinchwad	23	52	102	-	32	71	105	-	24	61	82	-
Maharashtra	Pune	23	62	99	-	28	78	107	-	21	65	102	-
Chattisgarh	Raipur	13	36	188	-	12	31	148	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	Rajkot	13	19	83	30	13	21	92	32	15	21	100	35
Jharkhand	Ranchi	19	36	220	-	20	37	196	-	19	37	142	
Jammu & Kashmir	Shrinagar	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Gujarat	Surat	14	20	89	31	13	22	92	31	16	24	99	34
Maharashtra	Thane	28	58	117	-	18	60	122	-	18	47	125	-
Gujarat	Vadodara	14	20	87	33	14	23	92	30	15	22	103	35
Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	19	33	145	-	11	32	256	-	10	40	215	-
Maharashtra	Vasai-virar	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	#	#	#	#
Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada	6	37	110	-	6	44	102	-	6	29	99	-
Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	9	19	61	-	8	18	77	-	9	17	73	-

NB. NA- no monitoring station in the city, @ -monitoring station sanctioned but not yet operational, '-' data not received, National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Residential, Industrial, Rural and others Areas (Annual average) for SO<sub>2</sub> = 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub> = 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, PM<sub>10</sub> = 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> & PM<sub>2.5</sub> = 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and SO<sub>2</sub> = 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub> = 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, PM<sub>10</sub> = 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> = 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for Ecologically sensitive area. The data furnished in the table for year 2017 is as available on date.