

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020

IMPACT OF POLLUTION ON TOURISM SECTOR

2712. DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment on the impact on tourism due to air and water pollution in India, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of Government regarding tourists facing health issues or being adversely affected due to pollution, if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a): Although, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has not assessed the impact of air and water pollution on tourism, from the data given below of Foreign Tourist Arrival (FTA) during the past 3 years, it does not appear that pollution impacted adversely on tourism in the country.

Year	FTA (in Million)
2017	10.04
2018	10.56
2019 (Provisional)	10.89

(b): According to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), no data is available on health issues faced by tourists due to pollution. However, various measures have been taken by the Government to prevent river pollution and air quality management as at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712 ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020 REGRADING IMPACT OF POLLUTION ON TOURISM SECTOR.

Measures taken to prevent river pollution include those mentioned below:

- a. Regulation of industrial pollution is implemented through various provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 under Consent mechanism by the respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC).
- b. CPCB issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding 'Treatment and Utilization of Sewage for Restoration of Water Quality of River' to Municipal Corporations of 46 Metropolitan cities and 20 State Capitals.
- c. CPCB issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to SPCBs/PCCs regarding treatment & utilization of sewage.
- d. Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) are installed by the industrial units in the country through directives issued by CPCB for getting real time information on the effluent quality.
- e. General discharge standards and industry specific effluent discharge standards have been notified under Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 so as to prevent pollution of the water bodies.
- f. Directions are issued for various industrial sectors to implement Zero Liquid Discharge for protection of the water quality of rivers and streams.

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712 ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020 REGARDING IMPACT OF POLLUTION ON TOURISM SECTOR.

Measures taken for Air Quality Management include those mentioned below:

1. Stringent BS – IV vehicle norms have been implemented from April 2017.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide its notification no. G.S.R. 96 (E) dated 29 January, 2018 notified SO₂ and NO_x standards industrial boilers and G.S.R 263 (E) dated 22 March, 2018 notified SO₂ and NO_x standards for 05 categories of industries.
3. National Ambient Air Quality Standards were notified in November, 2009. CPCB have prescribed 12 parameters, namely, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO₂, CO, NH₃, Ozone, Lead, Benzene, Benzo-a Pyrene, Arsenic and Nickel.
4. Central Pollution Control Board along with State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees are monitoring ambient air quality at 793 monitoring stations located in 344 cities/towns covering 28 States and 7 Union Territories across the country under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP-Manual). CPCB in association with SPCBs/PCCs has installed 205 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in 114 cities in the country.
5. National Air Quality Index developed and disseminated for effective communication of air quality status to public.
