GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.36 ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT OF AIR POLLUTION ON TOURISM

36. SHRI K. NAVASKANI: SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the impact of air pollution on tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the tourists are experiencing health issues due to pollution;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) to (d): No formal study has been instituted by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India to assess the impact of air pollution on tourism and whether tourists are experiencing health issues due to pollution or not.
- (e): The measures taken by the Government for control of air pollution are attached as Annexure.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.36 ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021 REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT OF AIR POLLUTION ON TOURISM

Steps taken by the Central Government to control air pollution

Steps taken to improve air quality in NCR and adjoining areas

Various steps have been taken for monitoring and management of air quality for reducing air pollution in Delhi including NCR. They are as follows:

- 1. A Commission on Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) was promulgated vide ordinance dated 13 July, 2021 in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) of section 3 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Ordinance, 2021 (4 of 2021) for better co-ordination, research, identification and resolution of problems surrounding the air quality index and for matters connected therewith or incidental there to.
- 2. The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas(CAQM) constituted a sub-committee for operationalization of GRAP and issuing necessary orders to the effect, under which regular meetings are held, and Orders are issued under GRAP for mitigation of air pollution in Delhi-NCR. As on date (24.11.2021), 8 meetings have been convened and 5 Orders issues (Copy of the Orders as well as minutes is available at www.cpcb.nic.in/winter-action-2021-22/).
- 3. Air Quality Index: Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Air Quality Index in 2015, which led to greater public awareness and actions to control air pollution.
- 4. Ambient Air Quality Network: Ambient air quality monitoring network in Delhi NCR strengthened and presently comprises 143 stations (81 continuous and 62 manual systems). Larger coverage and better representative data is now available.

State	Installed		
	Manual	CAAQM	Total
Delhi	10	40	50
Haryana	23	22	45
U.P.	20	17	37
Rajasthan	9	2	11
Total	62	81	143

6. Air Quality Forecast: Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi is being implemented since October, 2018 in association with Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) which includes information on real time air quality, active fire contribution, and 3-day forecast along with satellite-based monitoring of Air Quality through Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) etc.

7. Measures for control of vehicular emissions:

- Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from 1st April, 2020 for the rest of the country.
- ii. RFID (radio-frequency identity) system implemented by South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) for collection of toll and Environment Compensation Charges from commercial vehicles entering Delhi.
- iii. Ban on all diesel vehicles older than 10 years and all petrol vehicles older than 15 years, in Delhi and NCR. (Hon'ble SC order dated 29.10.2018)
- iv. Introduction of BS VI compliant vehicles across the country since April, 2020.
- v. Department of Heavy Industry is providing subsidy on evehicles under Faster Adoption and Manufacture of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME -II India) scheme.
- vi. Operationalization of Expressways & Highways to divert nondestined traffic.

8. Measures for control of industrial emission:

 Ban on use of pet coke and furnace oil as fuel in NCR States since October 24, 2017 and ban on use of imported pet coke in