

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 926  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2024**

**DEATHS DUE TO AIR POLLUTION RELATED ILLNESS**

**926. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:-

- (a) the percentage of deaths attributable to air pollution in the past five years, year-wise;
- (b) the cities with more air pollution than the safe limit recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO);
- (c) the steps being taken to curb this pollution;
- (d) whether there are studies to reflect the efficiency of these mechanisms; and
- (e) whether there is a target set for the same?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

- (a): Air pollution is one of the aggravating factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases, however, there are no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of disease/deaths exclusively due to air pollution. Health effects of air pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors which include food habits, occupational habits, socioeconomic status, medical history, immunity and heredity etc. of the individuals.
- (b): The yearwise and citywise air quality status can be accessed at the link [https://cpcb.nic.in/AQI\\_Bulletin.php](https://cpcb.nic.in/AQI_Bulletin.php)
- (c): Government of India has taken several steps to address air pollution issues which are enclosed at **Annexure**.
- (d) & (e): No.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 926 FOR 03.12.2024 REGARDING DEATHS DUE TO AIR POLLUTION RELATED ILLNESS**

Government of India has taken several steps to address air pollution issues across the country. These include:

- i. Implementation of National Programme for Climate Change and Human Health(NPCCHH) with objective to create awareness, capacity building, health sector preparedness and response and partnerships related activities on the climate sensitive health issues in the country since 2019;
  - i. NPCCHH, MoHFW has developed the Health Adaptation Plan for diseases due to Air Pollution.
  - ii. NPCCHH, MoHFW had also developed State Action Plan on Climate Change & Human Health for all 36 State/UTs. This State specific action plan contains dedicated chapter on Air Pollution which suggests interventions to reduce the impact.
  - iii. Ministry of Health & Family welfare issues Public Health advisories to State/UTs suggesting ways to reduce the impact of Air Pollution.
  - iv. Nationwide Public Awareness Campaigns are organized in coordination with States annually for World Environment Day (June), International Day of Clean Air for blue skies (September) and National Pollution Control Day (December).
  - v. Dedicated training modules have been developed in area of Air Pollution for Programme Managers, Medical Officers & Nurses, Nodal Officers Sentinel sites, Frontline workers like ASHA, vulnerable groups like women & Children, Occupationally exposed groups like Traffic Police, Municipal worker
  - vi. IEC materials have been developed targeting Air Pollution related illnesses in both English, Hindi and also regional languages. NPCCHH has also developed customized IEC materials targeting various vulnerable groups such as School Children, Women, Occupational vulnerable groups like Municipality workers, etc.
  - vii. Series of National Level Capacity Building workshops have been conducted annually to prepare Master Trainers (State level Trainers) who can cascade down the training at State/District level in the areas of Air pollution related illnesses and Surveillance. NPCCHH also supported various State Level Trainings to build capacity of District Nodal Officer on the domain areas of Air pollution
  - viii. Early warning system/Alerts for Air Pollution as well as Air Quality forecasts are disseminated from Indian Meteorological Department to States and Indian Cities to prepare the Health sector as well as Community including vulnerable population.

- II. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to safeguard the health of women & children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG).
- III. Swachh Bharat Mission to clean up streets, roads and infrastructure of India's cities, smaller towns, and rural areas. Swachh Hawa is an integral component of Swachh Bharat.
- IV. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched National Clean Air program in 2019 as a national level strategy to reduce air pollution levels across the country.

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