

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4546
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015
CLEAN AIR
Ahmed Shri Sultan

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

- (a) the initiatives of the Government for clean air in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has launched clean air programme across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the progress thereon;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to launch Satellite Monitoring System for forest, coast and environment; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) to (c). The Government has notified the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 for maintaining the clean air in the country. Central Pollution Control Board is carrying out National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) under which three air pollutants viz., Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Matter size equal to or less than 10 micron (PM₁₀), are being monitored regularly at all the locations. The NAMP network presently comprises 591 operating monitoring stations located in 248 cities/towns in 28 states and 5 union territories across the country. Recently the Government has launched an Air Quality Index (AQI) in 10 cities to inform the public about the quality of ambient air in those cities and also to sensitize people about the air quality.
- (d) to (e). New technologies like Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographic Information System (GIS) and remote sensing have been used in the forestry sector for better protection and management of the resource. The Forest Protection Division took initiatives in the field of implementation of Space Technology in MoEF&CC programmes, coordinating with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).