

REAL TIME MONITORING STATIONS FOR AIR POLLUTION

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RSQ 1618

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA

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

- (a) whether Government has 26 real time Monitoring Stations for air pollution and more are proposed to be set up in the near future;
- (b) if so, why regular advisories are not issued by Government alarming people about the pollution level to build awareness and take caution;
- (c) whether it is a fact that various Government and Central agencies do not coordinate or collaborate to share information on pollution levels, if so, what does Government plan to do in this regard; and
- (d) the measures that have been undertaken for surveying, monitoring pollution levels and enhance functioning?

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

(a) & (b) A total of 48 continuous air quality monitoring stations are being operated by the Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB), concerned State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees for UTs in 16 metropolitan cities. A few more continuous stations are being operated in towns like Rohtak, Jharia, Solapur, Panchkula, etc.

On the basis of review of literature, ambient air quality monitoring, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, etc a concept of Air Quality Index (AQI) has been developed by the Central Pollution Control Board. It is posted on CPCB website for comments. CPCB has undertaken the task of finalizing AQI.

(c) &(d) The data on ambient air under National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) is received in CPCB which is collated, compiled and published by CPCB. Data from continuous stations is also received in Central Pollution Control Board. Increasing the number of stations for air monitoring is a regular activity.