



Union Environment Minister reviews Coordinated Efforts by NCR States to tackle Air Pollution

States crystallise Action-oriented Plans focussing on targeted Stakeholder Engagement and Behavioural Change towards preventing Air Pollution

SPCBs must focus on Pollution Hotspots, adopt 'Zero-Tolerance' policy for Non-conforming Polluting Industries: Shri Bhupender Yadav

Posted On: 03 SEP 2026 4:54PM by PIB Delhi

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav today reviewed the comprehensive plans submitted by NCR States, focussing on stakeholder engagement and behavioural change communication to tackle air pollution. The Minister has conducted more than 25 meetings held over the last one year to review individual air quality management plans of the Municipal Bodies in NCR and action taken by them to achieve the targets. This resulted in crystallisation of the individual State action plans, encompassing a range of on-ground activities to tackle the identified sources of air pollution, besides the stakeholder engagement plan reviewed today.

Chaired a meeting with the Environment Ministers and Secretaries, as well as the Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of the Pollution Control Boards of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, along with the Agriculture Minister and Agriculture Secretary and the Environment Secretary of... pic.twitter.com/2UD0SVur1Q

— Bhupender Yadav (@byadavbjp) September 3, 2026

Welcoming detailed action plans prepared by the NCR State Governments to ensure citizen participation in tackling air pollution, the Minister highlighted specific initiatives undertaken by the States and urged other States to adopt and replicate best practices. Shri Yadav laid special emphasis on strengthening IEC activities and behavioural change communication by taking the campaign to the grassroots and involving all stakeholders.

The Minister, in his interaction with the NCR State Governments, stressed that coordinated and focused stakeholder engagement is essential to make efforts to tackle air pollution more effective. The Minister reviewed the IEC activities proposed by different States and emphasised that these should be undertaken in a coordinated manner for greater outreach and impact.

Shri Yadav proposed that the Union Ministers for Agriculture, Environment and Urban Development hold meetings with their respective State counterparts to devise coordinated strategies for addressing air pollution. He further emphasised that State Pollution Control Boards must focus on identified air pollution hotspots and prepare practical and effective action plans for their mitigation.

In his interaction with the State authorities, the Minister stressed that “non-conforming polluting industries must be dealt with firmly, following a ‘Zero-Tolerance’ policy”. He also underlined the need to fix responsibility for violations and defaults, with publicising non-conforming stakeholders being adopted as a measure to ensure greater accountability and compliance.

The Minister emphasised that IEC activities alone will not be sufficient, and that effective implementation and enforcement remain critical to tackling air pollution. He informed that a review meeting at the level of the Union Minister would be held in September to assess the progress of initiatives and action taken by the concerned States. He reassured the NCR State Governments that the Government of India would extend full support to their efforts for Air Quality Management.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary (MoEFCC), Chairman, Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), and other senior officers from MoEFCC and CAQM. Representation from the State governments included Environment Ministers and Secretaries, as well as the Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of the Pollution Control Boards of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, along with the Agriculture Minister and Agriculture Secretary and the Environment Secretary of Punjab, besides the Additional Chief Secretary and Environment Secretary of Rajasthan.

(Link to State Action Plans: <https://caqm.nic.in/landingpage/pages/documents/state-action-plans>)

VM

(Release ID: 2306374) Visitor Counter : 387
Read this release in: Urdu , हिन्दी , Tamil