

Environment Minister highlights efforts made by Central govt to tackle air pollution in NCR

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Union Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar highlighted the efforts made by the Central govt to tackle air pollution in NCR in a press conference he addressed in Delhi on Monday. He said efforts



of the Central Pollution Control Board are resulting in more 'good days' in terms of environment in the National Capital Region of Delhi. He said that a high level meeting of 5 States to address the problem of air pollution in Delhi, due to stubble burning will be held soon.

The Central Government has taken several measures to reduce pollution in Delhi and the NCR region over the last year. Union Forest and Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said that pollution problems started increasing in Delhi since 2006 but it was only after 2014, that serious efforts have been made to deal with the issue. A root cause for the increase in air pollution is stubble burning in states adjoining the capital. In order to deal with this problem the Center has given a package of Rs 1150 crore to Haryana and Punjab, so that instead of burning crop residue in the fields, it can be used to make fertilizer.

Prakash Javadekar appealed to people to not burn firecrackers. He urged them to use green crackers Deepawali instead. Environment Minister said that the government has taken all possible steps to curb pollution including closure of polluting industries as well as reducing pollution arising from the construction of the Eastern and Western Peripheral Expressways. Prakash Javadekar reiterated that BS6 standard vehicles will hit the markets from April 2020.

Today, Delhi Metro is the largest network in the world, which has also helped cut pollution in Delhi. The Central Government is clearly committed to make Delhi's air pollution free. Public awareness has also increased over the years. The results of all these efforts are visible today.