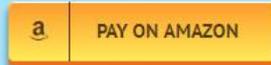


## January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Sample Current Affairs

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## 1. Clean Air Programme: how Centre plans to wage a ‘war against pollution’

- ❑ What are the key features of National Clean Air Programme?
- ❑ How does NCAP aim to achieve its objectives?

### GS paper 2 ( Government policies and schemes )

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

Sowmiya

Ashok. ( 2019, January , 15). Clean Air Programme: how Centre plans to wage a ‘war against pollution’. Economic Times. Retrieved from

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/clean-air-programme-how-centre-plans-to-wage-a-war-against-pollution-5536671/>

### What is the context about?

- ❑ Recently, the Centre launched what it described as a “war against pollution” across the country — a Rs 300-crore National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- ❑ It proposes a “tentative national target” of 20%-30% reduction in PM2.5 and PM10 concentrations by 2024, with 2017 as the base year for comparison.

- ❑ NCAP will be rolled out in 102 cities that are considered to have air quality worse than the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

## **What are the key features of National Clean Air Programme?**

### **Key features of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP):**

- ❑ Achieve a national-level target of 20-30% reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentration by between 2017 and 2024.
- ❑ Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will execute this nation-wide programme in consonance with the section 162 (b) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986.
- ❑ The programme has been launched with an initial budget of ₹300 crore for the first two years.
- ❑ The plan includes 102 non-attainment cities, across 23 states and Union territories, which were identified by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on the basis of their ambient air quality data between 2011 and 2015.

### **How does NCAP aim to achieve its objectives?**

- ❑ Designed as a three-tier system, the plan of action includes real-time physical data collection, data archiving, and an action trigger system in all 102 cities, besides extensive plantation plans, research on clean-

technologies, landscaping of major arterial roads, and stringent industrial standards.

- ❑ The NCAP also allocates for rural monitoring stations, tech support and certification agencies for monitoring equipment, besides stressing the need for studies to determine polluting sources, proper implementation of existing fossil fuel (BS-VI) norms, and conducting awareness and capacity-building initiatives.
- ❑ It also proposes state-level plans of e-mobility in the two-wheeler sector, rapid development in charging infrastructure and public transportation system, and the adoption of third-party audits for industries whose operations cause widespread environmental damage.