



Haryana Cabinet Approves Clean Air Project | Haryana | 25 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The Haryana Cabinet has approved the [Haryana Clean Air Project for Sustainable Development \(HCAPSD\)](#), a ₹3,647 crore initiative aimed at [improving air quality](#) and reducing emissions across the [Indo-Gangetic Plain](#).

Key Points

- **Haryana Clean Air Project (HCAPSD):**
 - The project is supported by the [World Bank](#) to improve air quality and reduce emissions in **Haryana** and the **Indo-Gangetic Plain**.
 - It aims to implement [air pollution control technologies](#) and coordinate efforts with other states to reduce **cross-border emissions**.
 - The project will also work on enhancing the [ease of living](#) for citizens through cleaner air.
- **Project Implementation and Governance:**
 - The project will be led by the **Haryana Department of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change**, in collaboration with several other departments, including [agriculture](#), [transport](#), and [industries](#).
 - A three-tier governing structure will oversee progress, with the **chief secretary** chairing the top-tier committee.
- **Clean Air Ambassadors Program:**
 - A state-wide fellowship program will be launched, including **24 "clean air ambassadors"** at the district level to drive implementation.
- **Other Steps Taken by the State Government:**
 - **Women's Empowerment Scheme - Lado Lakshmi Yojana:**
 - Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini announced that a framework for the **Lado Lakshmi Yojana** for women will be presented in the upcoming state budget.
 - The **Haryana government** has launched the **Lado Lakshmi Yojana** to support **economically disadvantaged women** in the state. Through this program, **women living below the poverty line** will receive **₹2,100 per month**.
 - **Civil Judges' Departmental Exams:**
 - The Cabinet amended the rules for **civil judges'** departmental exams, now to be conducted by the high court or a nominated authority.
 - **Relief for Ex-Employees:**
 - The state government has waived recoverable amounts from ex-employees of **Haryana Minerals Limited (HML)**, and **Handloom and Export Corporation**.
 - A fixed monthly honorarium, ranging from ₹36,000 to ₹20,000, will be provided to these ex-employees, effective from October 2020.

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Air Pollutants

Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)



It comes from the consumption of fossil fuels (oil, coal and natural gas). Reacts with water to form acid rain.

Impact: Causes respiratory problems.

Ozone (O₃)



Secondary pollutant formed from other pollutants (NO_x and VOC) under the action of the sun.

Impact: Irritation of the eye and respiratory mucous membranes, asthma attacks.

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)



Emissions from road transport, industry and energy production sectors. Contributes to Ozone and PM formation.

Impact: Chronic lung disease.

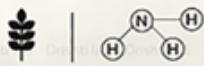
Carbon Monoxide (CO)



It is a product of the incomplete combustion of carbon-containing compounds.

Impact: Fatigue, confusion, and dizziness due to inadequate oxygen delivery to the brain.

Ammonia (NH₃)



Produced by the metabolism of amino acids and other compounds which contain nitrogen.

Impact: Immediate burning of the eyes, nose, throat and respiratory tract and can result in blindness, lung damage.

Lead (Pb)



Released as a waste product from extraction of metals such as silver, platinum, and iron from their respective ores.

Impact: Anemia, weakness, and kidney and brain damage.

Particulate Matter (PM)



PM10: Inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 10 micrometers and smaller.

PM2.5: Fine inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 2.5 micrometers and smaller.

Source: Emitted from construction sites, unpaved roads, fields, fires.

Impact: Irregular heartbeat, aggravated asthma, decreased lung function.

Note: These major air pollutants are included in the Air quality index for which short-term National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed.

