

(e) whether works have been executed as per their advice; and

(f) whether the cleaning work is still incomplete and by when, the same would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) Under the Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II, which commenced in December, 2004 at an approved cost of Rs. 624 crore, major portion of the outlay i.e. Rs. 387.19 crore, has been allocated to Delhi. The cost of works under YAP-II is to be shared between the Government of India and State Governments in the ratio of 85:15. A sewage treatment capacity of 135 mld is envisaged to be created under YAP-II in Delhi. In addition, projects for the rehabilitation of 324 mld treatment capacity and rehabilitation/laying of trunk sewers for a length of 30.82 kms. are also being implemented. During the last three years central funds amounting to Rs. 72.47 crore have been released to the implementing agencies in Delhi. For facilitating implementation of YAP-II, a Project Management Consultant (PMC) comprising of experts in the field of environmental pollution control has been appointed.

In addition to the above Action Plan, the Government of Delhi has also taken up large scale non-sewerage, sewerage and sewage treatment works out of its own plan funds. In this regard Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has evolved the concept of laying interceptor sewers along the three major drains namely, Najafgarh, Supplementary and Shahdara in Delhi to prevent the flow of untreated sewage into the river Yamuna. The salient features of DJB's proposal include laying of interceptor sewers, augmentation of existing capacity of sewage treatment plants (STPs) and construction of additional sewage treatment plants after full utilization of existing STPs in a phased manner by the year 2012. The tentative cost of the project is about Rs. 1500 crore.

Implementation of the river pollution abatement works is an ongoing and continuous activity under which various schemes of pollution abatement are implemented by the Government based upon the estimated pollution loads. The quality of water in Yamuna river has not shown the desired improvement, particularly in Delhi, due to enormous increase in pollution load and lack of fresh water in the river during lean period.

Conversion of forest land for irrigation project in Madhya Pradesh

‡430. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal for the conversion of 11,530 hectare of forest land of the district Narsinghpur for the construction of Rani Avantibai Sagar Canal, if so, the date on which the said proposal has been received by Central Government;

(b) the action taken so far on this proposal by the Central Government the reason for its pendency; and

(c) until when, the permission for the said conversion would be granted?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has received on 21.06.2006 the proposal for diversion of 11.530 hectares of forest land in district Narsinghpur for the construction of Rani Avantibai Sagar Canal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The approval order for the project was issued on 07.12.2007.

Tackling global warming

431. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy to tackle issue of global warming;

(b) whether Government is implementing any specific measures to minimise the destruction of the country; and

(c) the number of forestation programmes that have been launched in the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol are the two multilateral environmental agreements addressing the issues related to climate change. India is a Party to both these agreements. As per the Kyoto Protocol, only developed countries have quantified commitment for reducing emissions of Greenhouse Gases. Developing countries including India have no such obligation of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

Nevertheless, the Government of India is conscious of various concerns that arise due to climate change. The existing legislative and policy framework and wide ranging reforms in relevant sectors contribute to addressing climate change. The activities that are aimed at promoting accelerated economic growth on the one hand and addressing climate change concerns on the other include programmes related to promotion of energy efficiency, energy conservation, power sector reforms, active renewable energy programme, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and conservation of forests, etc.

Further, Government of India has launched the National Action Plan on Climate Change in June 2008 to outline its strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change. The National Action Plan advocates a strategy that promotes, firstly, the adaptation to Climate Change and secondly, further enhancement of the ecological sustainability of India's development path. Eight National Missions which form the core of the National Action Plan represent multi-pronged, long term and integrate strategies for achieving key goals in the context of climate change. The focus is on promoting understanding of Climate Change, adaptation and mitigation, energy efficiency and natural resource conservation.