

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Wetlands in many areas undergone spatial reduction because of biotic and abiotic pressures which include anthropogenic activities, uncontrolled siltation, weed infestation, disposal of sewage, surface run-off, chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers and dumping the wastes. However, there are no corroborative evidences of estimated loss of fresh water wetlands in the country.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has been implementing 'National Wetland Conservation Programme' under which 115 wetlands covering 25 States of the country have been identified for providing financial and technical support for undertaking various conservation activities. An amount of Rs. 74.30 crores has been released from 1987-88 till date for conservation and management of identified wetlands in the country for various conservation activities. Further, in pursuance of the provisions in the National Environment Policy, 2006, the Ministry has drafted Regulatory Framework for Conservation and Management of Wetlands and invited comments of all the stakeholders.

Pollution of rivers by industries

1045. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted regarding the extensive pollution of rivers caused by industrial discharge across the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the number of industrial units found guilty during the survey and the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), as on January, 2009, 1357 grossly polluting industries with Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) load of 100 kg/day or more, have been identified in the country which discharge their effluents into rivers and lakes. Based on the actions of the Central and State Pollution Control Boards under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, 269 of these industries have been closed and 898 industries have provided requisite treatment/disposal facilities and are operating satisfactorily. The remaining 190 industries have installed treatment plants but these are not performing satisfactorily. Action has been initiated by the State Pollution Control Boards Against these defaulting industries.

III-effects of rise in temperature

†1046. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.