

(d) the details as regards the friendly environmental climate created, if any, to ensure the flow of these birds into Goa and other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir. On the contrary, as reported by the State Government, the number of species of migratory birds coming to Goa in winter has increased from 37 species last year to 50 species during the current year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The important water bodies which are visited by the migratory birds are Chorao lake, Carambolim lake, Bhatim lake, Pilar lake, Curtorim lake, Verna lake, etc.

(d) The important steps taken for the better conservation of migratory birds are as given below:—

- (i) Important migratory species of birds have been included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby providing them legal protection.
- (ii) Important wetlands/wintering habitats of migratory birds, like Keoladeo, Chilka, etc., have been declared as Protected Areas.
- (iii) Financial and technical assistance are provided to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for conservation of habitats of Migratory birds.
- (iv) India is a signatory to the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) and to the Ramsar Convention and is obliged to protect the migratory species and their habitats, including wetlands.
- (v) India has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CMS for protection of Siberian Cranes and its habitat.
- (vi) Regular patrolling of the important bird habitats is carried out by the concerned State Forest Departments to check poaching, etc.
- (vii) Programmes for awareness for protection of wildlife including birds are conducted, regularly.

Use of water in wetlands

1044. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that an estimated 38 per cent of fresh water wetlands, which are our national assets, have been lost during current decade in the country;

(b) whether Government is also aware that many wetlands are being used for dumping of waste which also causes serious environmental threat;

(c) if so, the details of the action proposed by Government to protect country's wetlands and prohibit the conversion of wetlands to other use; and

(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.