

[15 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) the details of funds utilized in 2005-06 out of 1.00 crore released for the State, scheme-wise and location-wise; and

(c) the Government's plan to develop the Manas Biosphere Reserves with the enhance of the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) It is not a fact that no fund was released to Government of Assam for Management of Biosphere Reserves during 2004-05. A grant of Rs. 32.79 lakhs was released during the year for this purpose.

(b) The total quantum of funds released under the Conservation and Management of Biosphere Reserves during 2005-06 is Rs. 39.84 lakhs and no Rs. 1.00 Crore. The location wise sanction, release, revalidation and utilization of funds is indicated in the table below:-

Rs. (in lakhs)

Location	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Total Amount Available	Amount Utilized	Remarks
(a) Manas	Nil	Nil	19.75*	19.75	No release was made due to balance from previous year.
(b) Dibru Saikhowa	49.80	39.84	39.84	29.70	An amount of 10.14 lakhs remained unutilized

Amount available due to revalidation. .

(c) The state government has been advised to submit Management Action Plan for 2006-07 duly approved by State Level Steering Committee in prescribed proforma.

#### **Yamuna Action Plan**

2628. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:  
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention; has been drawn to the reported statement of Waterkeeper Alliance, a US-based International activist group, that Yamuna river is one of the dirtiest river and the water flows in it can hardly be called water, it is sewage;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Delhi with close to 25 million people treats only 600 million gallons of sewage per day; and

(c) if so, what were the objectives of "Yamuna Action Plan" with implementation schedule indicating total amount spent, so far, to control the pollution in river, including foreign aid component?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Due to lack of fresh water in the river Yamuna during the lean period, its condition deteriorates with the discharge of treated and untreated sewage in the stretch from Wazirabad to Okhla in Delhi. It is estimated that about 720 million gallons per day (MGD) of sewage is generated in Delhi, against which, a sewage treatment capacity of 512 MGD exists in the city. Due to the deficiency in sewerage network, however, only 346 MGD capacity is under utilization at present.

To address the pollution of river Yamuna, the Integrated Action Plan prepared by the Ministry of urban Development is under implementation in Delhi with a number of agencies identified towards its implementation. Works under YAP-N in Delhi are also a part of the overall Integrated Action Plan. Further to review the progress of implementation of the action plan, a three tier monitoring mechanism has been constituted in pursuance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. This includes an Apex Committee under the Ministry of Urban Development.

For abatement of pollution of river Yamuna, Yamuna Action Plans (YAP) have been launched with the assistance of the Japan Bank for International Co-operation by the Govt, of India in a phased manner in April, 1993. The Phase-I of YAP in which 165 MGD of sewage treatment capacity was created in Delhi, UP and Haryana against the target of 166 MGD was declared closed in February, 2003. Under YAP-II, which commenced in December, 2004 at an approved cost of Rs. 624 crore, a sewage treatment capacity of 30 MGD & 12 MGD respectively is proposed to be created in Delhi and UP respectively during a period of five years. In addition,

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rehabilitation of 72 MGD capacity is also being taken up under YAP-II in Delhi. So far, an amount of Rs. 686 crore has been utilized under YAP-I and YAP-II.

#### **Regularization of pre-1980 forest encroachments**

2629. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has furnished a complete proposal under Forests Conservation Act, 1980, in respect of seventeen districts of the State for regularization of pre-1980 forests encroachments in accordance with guidelines of the Government of India dated 18th October, 1990;

(b) if so, for how many districts the approval have been received, so far;

(c) how much time do Government require to give the approval for the pending proposals; and

(d) the details of action taken by the Central Government for the same so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The in-principle approval of Central Government for regularization of encroachments in 9 districts, under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has already been granted on 23.08.2006.

(c) and (d) The proposal for regularization of encroachments in remaining districts is under process.

#### **Utility of projects**

†2630. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has questioned the utility of several projects concerning his Ministry and recommended their immediate discontinuance;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.