

- (a) the funds earmarked for the purpose of cleaning of river Brahmani in Orissa; and
- (b) the time limit fixed for cleaning the above river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), Talcher and Dharamshala towns of Orissa have been included for conservation of river Brahmani. Nine projects of pollution abatement have been sanctioned at these two towns for an amount of Rs. 389.83 lakhs. Of these, six projects have been completed so far and the remaining three projects are scheduled for completion by March, 2011. In addition, Government has provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 49.0 lakhs to Orissa for preparing pollution abatement proposals in respect of Dhenkanal and Rourkela towns for conservation of Brahmani.

Satellite for climate research

†4027. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to launch climate research satellite in solar orbit in near future to gather credible data regarding factors responsible for climate change; and
- (b) if so, the name of the country by whose assistance these satellites would be launched along with their launching schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As a part of Indo-French Space collaboration, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is planning to launch "Megha Tropiques" satellite in polar orbit within a year. This satellite will provide data on atmospheric humidity, radiation budget and amount of precipitation to study the climate. India and France are jointly developing the scientific payloads of "Megha Tropiques".

Trimming of trees in Delhi

4028. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to trim trees in the capital before Commonwealth Games, 2010 to make them more beautiful;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what other steps Government is contemplating to plant more flowers and trees before the Games in October, 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The Department of Forests and Wildlife, Delhi Parks and Garden Society of the Department of Environment, and Public Works Department of Government of NCT of Delhi and Delhi Development Authority, Central Public Works Department and Municipal Corporation of Delhi are arranging 60 lakh ornamental potted plants for beautification of Delhi/sporting venues for the Commonwealth Games 2010. Besides, plantations are also created by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, Public Works Department, Government of NCT of Delhi and other greening agencies along with road sides, central verges, roundabouts and other vacant areas including the greening of Metro Pillars and Flyovers.

Environmental and other clearance to construction of border roads

4029. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to delay, slow progress in execution of projects on construction of border roads Army has proposed for infrastructure build up projects within 50 kms. of Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China and Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan should be exempted from requisite environmental of other clearance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Army, keeping in view the National Security perspective, has filed an Interlocutory Application (IA) on 02 April, 2009 in the Supreme Court of India seeking exemption from requirement of clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in respect of roads being constructed / maintained by Border Road Organization (BRO) within 50 km of Indian borders / Line of Control (LoC) / Line of Actual Control (LAC). The IA had listed 33 strategically important roads as outstanding for clearance at the time of filling the IA. The matter is presently *subjudice*.