

1	2	3	4
Dispensary/Hospitals	24	109.45	0
Regularization of Encroachments	15	2,63,163.71	0
Drinking Water Projects	1,181	2,066.13	1
Conversion of forest villages	16	41,170	0
Hydel Projects	433	59,901.90	1
Irrigation Projects	1,555	81,235.26	2
Mining other than Coal Mining Projects	1,309	77,661.62	12
Coal Mining Projects	266	55,722.54	2
Other Projects	7,263	1,54,785.79	15
Railway Projects	246	6,798.88	0
Rehabilitation Proposals	42	17,359.62	0
Road Projects	5,712	40,268.88	8
Schools	95	2,482.97	0
Thermal Power Projects	35	4,093.54	0
Transmission Lines	1,775	24,201.29	3
Village Electrification Projects	16	40.62	0
Wind Power Projects	68	3,809.93	1
TOTAL	20,267	8,64,178.79	45

Utilization of forest land in Assam by industries

629. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- the percentage of land covered under forests in Assam;
- the details of forest land being used by mining, industry, power sector etc. in the State so far;
- how those sectors, utilizing forest land, are compensating for the development of people living in those areas of forests; and
- the various measures including afforestation taken by the various beneficiary Ministries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) As per India State of Forest

Report 2011 published by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover in the State of Assam, based on interpretation of satellite data of Nov 2008-Jan 2009 is 27,673 sq. km which is 35.28% of the State's geographical area.

(b) Total forest area used by different sectors so far

(i) Mining - 173.36 hectare

(ii) Industry - 326.380 hectare

(iii) Power - 673.45 hectare

(c) These sectors are compensating by ensuring development of people living in those forest areas by engaging the local people in their activities for their livelihood and employment generation.

(d) The user agencies engaged in mining, industry, power etc. provide fund for execution of various developmental activities including afforestation activities through Forest Department of the respective States.

Tropical cyclones due to air pollution

630. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that an increase in air pollution in the Indian Subcontinent because of diesel fumes and biomass burning is enhancing intensity of tropical cyclones in the Arabian Sea; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The ambient air quality is being monitored across the country under the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP). There are 518 operating stations under NAMP covering 216 cities, towns and industrial areas in 26 States and 5 Union Territories as on 29.02.2012. Three pollutants, namely, Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and PM₁₀ (particulate matter having size less than 10 micron) are being monitored at all stations.

The monitored data for ambient air for the last three years (2008, 2009 and 2010) reveals that levels of SO₂ (annual average - 50 µg/m³) are within the prescribed national ambient air quality norms across the country and that of NO₂ (annual average - 40 µg/m³) are within norms in most of cities and towns. However, the level of PM₁₀ (annual average - 60 µg/m³) exceed the prescribed norms in a majority of cities and towns. A fluctuating/mixed trend is being observed and NO₂ is an upcoming pollutant.

As per India Meteorological Department (IMD), the frequency of cyclones and their intensification into severe cyclones over the Arabian Sea do not show any significant trend based on the recorded history of IMD (1891-2010) which includes