

is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) since 2000-02 as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme for tree plantation and eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas of the country through people's participation. Since inception of NAP, Rs 2933.50 crores has been released to the Programme States for afforestation works over 18.86 lakh hectares, of which, an amount of Rs. 194.33 crores has been released to Gujarat for afforestation works over 95440 ha. Besides NAP, MoEF also is implementing the National Mission for Green India (GIM) on landscape approach with people's participation. An amount of Rs. 49.95 crores has been released to 21 States under GIM for addressing preparatory activities in 71 identified landscapes during 2011-12, of which Rs. 1.34 crores has been released to Gujarat State for taking up activities in two identified landscapes.

From the Ministry of Finance, for conservation and development of forests Rs. 5000 crores was recommended under 13th finance commission for five years from the year 2010-11. An amount of Rs. 20.48 crores has been released to Gujarat during 2010-11 and 2011-12. Besides, during 2009-10 under Additional Central Assistance for Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover, an amount of Rs 81.66 crores was released to States of which an amount of Rs 4.3 crores has been released to Gujarat State.

Funds for afforestation are also provided from the Union Government to the States including Gujarat, under other Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Bamboo Mission etc. which are implemented by the other Ministries.

Discharge of poisonous water by chemical factories in Haryana

†*160. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the effluent emanating from various types of chemical factories situated at Sonapat and Panipat in Haryana is being discharged directly in the Yamuna river;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to discharge of poisonous water by these chemical factories, the quantity of ammonia in Yamuna water at Delhi has increased as on 1 November, 2012; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has taken any cognizance of this matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified industry specific effluent discharge standards before discharge into ambient water bodies under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 provides for the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to enforce these standards and to issue necessary directions in case of non-compliance under the Act.

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) has reported that all the chemical industries situated in Sonapat and Panipat region have provided the treatment plants for treatment of their industrial effluents, and no unit is discharging its effluent directly into the river Yamuna. Also, as per information provided by CPCB, no chemical industry is discharging waste water directly into: river Yamuna.

(c) The CPCB and HPSCB are regularly monitoring jointly the river Yamuna at Sonapat and Panipat. As per the analysis of Yamuna river samples taken in the months of October and November, 2012, there are no reports of increase in ammonia in the river water.

CPCB has not received any complaint on increased level of ammonia in the river water at Delhi on 1st November, 2012. However, CPCB had earlier received the complaints in this regard, and after review, HSPCB were directed to take corrective measures.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Cancellation of airport development fee

1086. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cancelled the airport development fee being levied at various airports;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for such a fee allowed to be collected at the first place; and