

Standard for sewage treatment plants

†1880. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sewage treatment plants functioning in the country;
- (b) whether Government has fixed any standard for sewage treatment plants;
- (c) if so, the number of the sewage treatment plants which fulfil these standards; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to modify the remaining sewage treatment plants according to the standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) As reported by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)(A report on Status of Sewage Treatment in India, 2005), out of 934 class-I cities, class-II towns and other smaller towns, 160 cities were having Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and there were 269 sewage treatment plants established. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has laid down general standards for discharge of environmental pollutants into inland surface, public sewers, land for irrigation, marine coastal areas under Schedule-VI of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.

(c) and (d) The CPCB has carried out performance studies of 151 STPs and it has been observed that, out of 151 STPs monitored, 49 STPs were exceeding BOD standard and 7 STPs were violating COD standards. It was further observed that 102 STPs were meeting BOD standards and 144 were meeting with the standards prescribed with the COD. Under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the State Pollution Control Boards are monitoring the performance of STPs and have interacted with the authorities concerned to take remedial measures for improving functioning of STPs.

Special programme for recovery of critically endangered species

1881. SHRI CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any recovery and conservation plan

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for four critically endangered species of the country included in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) viz. the Great Indian Bustard, Gooty Tarantula, BatagurBuska and the white Billie Heron;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by Government for effective implementation and monitoring of the special programme for recovery of critically endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The protection and management of wild animals and their habitats is looked after by the concerned State/Union Territory Government. Accordingly, the plans for recovery and conservation of critically endangered species are prepared by the concerned State/Union Territory Government.

No Recovery Programme has been initiated for any of the four species, viz., the Great Indian Bustard, Gooty Tarantula, BatagurBuska and the white Billie Heron as no proposal has been received from any State Government in accordance with the provisions contained under the scheme in this regard.

This Ministry provides financial and technical assistance to the State/Union Territory Governments for protection and conservation of wildlife and its habitats under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', which *inter-alia* includes a component "Recovery Programmes for Critically Endangered Species".

The scheme envisages preparation of comprehensive and scientific 'Recovery Plans' by the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the concerned State/Union Territory with the help of a national scientific institute/organization of repute, on a five year basis with yearly break up of activities proposed. Based upon such Recovery Plan, the Chief Wildlife Warden of the concerned State/Union Territory is required to submit proposals in the form of a single comprehensive Annual Plan of Operation for activities falling in their jurisdiction. The Central Government provides 100% financial assistance to the State/Union Territory Government after scrutiny of the proposal which is released in two instalments during the year (80% as first instalment and balance as second instalment).

Under this component of the scheme presently 16 species including Snow Leopard, Bustards (including Floricans), River Dolphin, Hangul, NilgiriTahr, Marine Turtles, dugongs and coral reefs, Edible-nest Swiftlets, Asian Wild Buffalo, Nicobar Megapode, Manipur Brow-antlered deer, Vultures, Malabar civet, the great one-horned rhinoceros, Asiatic Lion, Swamp deer and Jerdon's Courser have been identified for support.

Additional funds for sanctuaries

1882. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide additional security and budget for those protected sanctuaries where the number of wild animals is increasing continuously;

(b) if so, whether Government has received any proposals from the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The protection and management of national parks and sanctuaries in the States/Union Territories is looked after by the concerned State/Union Territory Government. This Ministry provides financial assistance to the concerned State/Union Territory Government under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" (CSS-IDWH) and "Project Tiger" (CSS-PT) based upon the requirements projected by them in their Annual Plans of Operation and subject to availability of funds. Presently, there is no specific proposal with the Ministry to provide additional security and budget for the Protected Areas where the number of wild animals is increasing continuously.

The Ministry has received proposals from various State/Union Territory Governments seeking financial assistance for management of protected areas and protection of wildlife and its habitats under the CSS-IDWH and CSS-PT. The details of financial assistance sought by various State Governments and released to them under the CSS-IDWH and CSS-PT for management of protected areas and protection