

The steps taken to prevent and control pollution in the country *interalia* include:

- Enforcement of emission and effluent standards notified under the aforementioned legislations;
- Implementation of mutually agreed time targeted programme under Corporate Responsibility on Environment Protection (CREP);
- Inspection of 17 categories of highly polluting industries for compliance of environmental standards under environment surveillance programme;
- Setting up of common effluent treatment plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units;
- Promotion of low-waste and no-waste technology;
- Augmentation of flow in rivers for aquatic ecological preservation;
- Implementation of water harvesting practices in various regions of the country;
- Promotion of clean technologies in Pulp and Paper, Sugar & Distilleries etc. with emphasis on reuse and recycle to reduce water consumption by these sectors.

(b) and (c) As per the information provided by Kerala State Pollution Control Board, the Board has (not conducted any such health study in the State on the effluence of any industry.

Proposal for diversion of Zudpi jungle

2349. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONEMNT AND FORESTS be please to state:

(a) the present status of the proposal for diversion of Zudpi jungle for developing World Class Multi-Model International Hub Airport near existing Nagpur airport which was submitted by Maharashtra State Government for the approval of the Ministry; and

(b) the reasons of delay in granting approval thereof, and by when the final approval will be granted by Government to the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) 'In principle' approval (Stage-I) was accorded on 12/03/2012 for diversion of 10.96 hectares and 9.17 hectares of Zudpi jungle for developing world class multi-model International Hub Airport in Nagpur District. The compliance of the conditions stipulated in Stage-I is awaited from the Government of Maharashtra. The final approval (Stage-II) depends upon receipt of the compliance of the conditions from the State Government.

National Level Regulator

2350. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

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

(a) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court in its recent verdict has directed Government to set up a National Regulator which would take comprehensive environment impact assessment of projects, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of action taken by Central Government to set up a National Level Regulator to carry out independent, objective and transparent appraisal and approval of projects for environmental clearance in response to the verdict of Hon'ble Apex Court?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 6.1.2014 in IA Nos. 1868, 2091, 2225-27, 2380, 2568 and 2937 in Writ Petition (C) No. 202 of 1995 has *inter-alia* directed the Government of India to set up a Regulator for appraising projects, enforcing environmental conditions for approvals and to impose penalties on the polluters. The court has directed that the notification appointing the Regulator be filed along with affidavit in the court by 31.3.2014. The matter is under examination.

Disappearance of water bodies in and around Delhi

2351. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water bodies in and around Delhi region are disappearing due to rise in pollution and other factors;