

and emergency medical help and organizing awareness camps at prominent workers accommodation sites.

For redressal of grievances of emigrants, Indian Workers Resource Centre (IWRC) at Dubai, UAE, has been established which is a 24X7 toll free multilingual helpline and also provides free legal, psychological and financial counselling to distressed Indians. Other Missions also have helpline/help desks to attend to grievances of Indian nationals.

Diplomatic initiatives are also taken with host countries to extend the protection of labour laws to the workers in the informal sector. India has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Labour with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s, bilateral MoU with the major emigrants receiving countries like United Arab Emirates (UAE) in December, 2006, with Kuwait in April, 2007, with Oman in November, 2008, with Malaysia in January, 2009, and with Bahrain in June, 2009, and Saudi Arabia in January, 2014 (for Domestic Sector Workers).

#### **Water quality monitoring centres under NRCP**

†\*531. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of water quality monitoring centres opened under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) in Madhya Pradesh, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of centres functioning out of those and functions of these centres; and
- (c) the details of measures being taken for maintaining the quality of river water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) No monitoring station has been set up in the State of Madhya Pradesh under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP). Water quality monitoring of rivers across the country, including Madhya Pradesh, is being carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) along with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme.

- (c) It is the responsibility of the State Governments/concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers, thereby polluting them. This Ministry is supplementing efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NGRBA (National Ganga River Basin Authority) programmes, for implementation of projects on a cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. Various pollution abatement schemes taken up under these programmes, *inter-alia*, include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation facilities, electric/improved wood crematoria and river front development.

NRCP and NGRBA programmes presently cover polluted stretches of 42 rivers in 199 towns spread over 21 States at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 10716.45 crore. Till end of March, 2014, ₹ 5097.50 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement works. Sewage treatment capacity of 4957.98 million litres per day has been created so far under the two programmes.

In addition, State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocations, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including setting up of sewage treatment plants, in various towns under other Central Sector Schemes like JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) and UIDSSMT (Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns) of Ministry of Urban Development.

To control discharge of industrial effluents into the rivers, CPCB and respective SPCBs/Pollution Control Committees monitor industries with respect to effluents discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

#### **Norms for special category status to States**

\*532. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the norms fixed for grant of special category status to the States;
- (b) whether Government has received proposals from the State Governments to accord Special Category State status to their States during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon; and
- (d) the names of the States which have already been accorded Special Status along with the funds allocated for their developmental activities during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
(SHRIINDERJIT SINGH RAO): (a) Special Category Status for plan assistance has been