

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) In the study Report by Centre for Science and Environment, decommissioning of certain power plants has been suggested to improve the energy efficiency in the country. Government of India has already taken several initiatives to improve the efficiency of power plants and to reduce the carbon footprint of the power sector. Renovation, Modernisation and Life Extension of old thermal power generating Units and decommissioning of old and inefficient Units, in phased manner is a part of the said initiatives. A total capacity of 3,000 MW has already been decommissioned till date.

Dilution of tasks at recent climate talks in Geneva

2420. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has opposed dilution of tasks at the recent climate talks in Geneva and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the United States and the European Union has proposed to dilute the tasks and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) No, Sir. Does not arise. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in its Article 3.1 refers to the principles of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) and Respective Capabilities (RC). India has reiterated that the ongoing negotiations for the climate change agreement in 2015 should be held as per the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC.

(b) US and EU have been emphasizing the evolving nature of world economy and that responsibilities of countries should also evolve accordingly.

World Bank assistance for adaptation

2421. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed an agreement with World Bank for financial assistance to take up various adaptation measures in rural areas to deal with the threat of climate change;

(b) if so, how the money will be used to implement for improving adaptive capacity of rural poor; and

(c) in what manner this assistance fund will be used for rural poor, particularly women farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) A grant agreement has been signed on 13.2.2015 between the Government of India and the World Bank for the grant amount of US \$ 8 million in respect of Sustainable Livelihood and Adaptation to Climate Change (SLACC) project funded through Global Environment Facility (GEF) trust Fund.

(b) and (c) As per the agreement, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India will implement the project through identified one or more beneficiary institutions in the Participating States for providing grants, to improve adaptive capacities of the rural poor, engaged in farm based livelihoods to cope with climate variability and change.

Water pollution

2422. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that water pollution in India is alarmingly increasing; and

(b) if so, the details, reasons and the action that Government is planning to arrest the water pollution in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) As reported by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the water quality monitoring indicates that the rivers are polluted in downstream of major urban and industrial centers due to large scale water abstraction and discharge of untreated/partially treated waste water not meeting the criteria. The pollution in rivers is increasing due to rapid urbanisation and industrialisation and resultant waste water generation. The development of wastewater treatment facility is not commensurate with the increasing wastewater generation in urban centres, lean flow in rivers for a large part of the year after a short span of monsoon period. The CPCB has identified 302 highly polluted river stretches on 275 rivers for priority action for controlling pollution in these rivers. The major industries responsible for pollution in these rivers are Distilleries, Pulp and paper, Sugar, Tanneries, Pharmaceuticals etc.

One of the major sources of water pollution is discharge of untreated/partially treated sewage. The CPCB carried out survey on status of sewage generation in the