

(b) whether those institutions have submitted reports to the Central Government after completing their studies; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for following those reports, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) to (c) As a party to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). India periodically furnishes national communication as country's efforts to address climate change. Studies were awarded to a total of 85 institutions for preparation of India's Second National Communication which embodies thematic areas like national circumstances, national greenhouse gas inventory, vulnerability assessment and adaptation. The studies have been completed and the concerned institutions have submitted their reports. Based on these reports the Government of India has prepared India's Second National Communication which has been submitted to UNFCCC in 2012.

Forest protection through modern technology

780. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to protect the forests by using modern technology like aero planes, helicopters etc. if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any areas of forests have been identified for this project, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has earmarked any funds for undertaking these works, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no such plan of Government of India to protect the forests by using modern technology like aero planes, helicopters etc. However, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Global Positioning System (GPS) etc. is already being practised by many States.

Further, Forest Survey of India (FSI) using the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectro-radiometer (MODIS) sensor data has been carrying out the near real time monitoring of forest fires since 2004, and sending evaluable alerts to State about active

fire locations. FSI also brings out a biennial report on the status of forest cover using remote sensing technology.

Government of India provides Grants-in-aid to State/UT Governments under the Centrally Sponsored: Intensification of Forest Management Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to supplement the efforts of the States for forest protection. Funds under the scheme are utilized for patrolling of the forests, establishment of field camps, building watch towers, creation and maintenance of fire lines, forest fire control, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening of forest infrastructure etc. States/UTs also take forest protection measures under various State sector schemes. Support of local communities is also taken for protection and management of forests under Joint Forest Management (JFM).

Desilting of Suheli river on regular basis

781. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Suheli river is a major river at Dhudwa National Park and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware that the river Suheli is full of sediments causing flash flood and water logging in the National Park, if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to desilt Suheli river on regular basis in order to save the terai eco system of the National Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Suheli river is one of the major rivers flowing through the Dudhwa National Park, originating from Nepal. In the course of time siltation upto 10 feet has been noticed thereby causing adverse impact on national park. To avoid any water logging, Suheli barrage gate was opened throughout the rainy season in the year 2014. There is no proposal to desilt Suheli river on regular basis. However, in the past, a portion of the Suheli river was desilted.

Pollution threat by construction work

782. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction works in cities is becoming a serious