

Misuse of funds for cleaning up of Yamuna river

113. SHRI. PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been instituted to investigate into the alleged misuse of funds for cleaning up of Yamuna river;

(b) if so, the details of the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective measures being taken/proposed by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds provided for the cleaning up of Yamuna river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An inquiry has been instituted by Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to investigate into misuse of funds for cleaning of River Yamuna in case of procurement of Diesel Generating Sets for community toilet complexes constructed in Delhi under Yamuna Action Plan. During the course of investigation it has transpired that certain irregularities were committed in the purchase of Diesel Generating Sets by the Electrical Division of MCD. On the basis of investigations, 32 officials/officers have been charge-sheeted.

(c) The implementation of NRCP which includes cleaning of Yamuna river is monitored by both the Government of India and the State Governments at various levels regularly. Funds are released to the implementing agencies/State Governments only after the receipt of proper Utilization Certificates authenticated by competent authorities.

Forestry projects of World Bank

114. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has indicated its preference to take up forestry projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including names of the States, cost of the projects and project objectives; and