

the values of SO₂ were within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) of 50 Ug/m³ (annual standard) in all the cities during 2016. The value of NO₂ were within permissible NAAQS limit of 40 (Ug/m³ (annual standard) in 32 out of 42 cities. Exceedance was mainly observed with respect to particulate matter in most of the cities. However, the analysis of time series data of particulate matter in various cities does not show any significant rising trend despite rise in population, number of vehicles and other economic activities. This has been possible due to various measures taken by Government for control of air pollution in the country which, *inter alia*, include Notification of NAAQS; revision of emission and effluent standards for industrial sectors from time to time; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; launching of National Air Quality index; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels; universalization of BS-IV by 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020; promotion of public transport and network of metro, e-rickshaws, promotion of car pooling, Pollution Under Control Certificate, lane discipline, vehicle maintenance, notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of biomass; issuance of directions under Section 18(l)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 comprising of action points to address air pollution in major cities including control and mitigation measures related to vehicular emissions, re-suspension of road dust and other fugitive emissions, bio-mass/municipal solid waste burning, industrial pollution, construction and demolition activities, and other general steps; installation of online continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries; collection of Environmental Protection Charge on more than 2000 CC diesel vehicles; and notification of graded response action plan for Delhi and NCR etc. The above measures are calibrated from time to time according to emerging needs.

Projects under NRCP

†851. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects launched under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) by Government during the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(b) the funds sanctioned and utilised till date and current status of these projects;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the target to decrease pollution in rivers, has been achieved under the programme, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government proposes to rejuvenate NRCP; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) The Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for implementation of works on cost sharing basis between Central and State Governments. Various pollution abatement works taken up under NRCP, *inter-alia*, include interception and diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage systems, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation facilities, electric/improved wood crematoria, river front development, etc. Presently, NRCP has covered polluted stretches of 31 rivers in 75 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 4517.82 crore.

During the last three years and current financial year, 3 projects amounting to ₹ 1517.50 crore in the States of Nagaland, Gujarat and Maharashtra have been sanctioned under NRCP and Central funds amounting to ₹ 74.28 crore have been released/utilized so far. State wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Against the required sanctioned sewage treatment capacity of 3155 million litres per day (mld), 2446.24 mld capacity has been created so far under the NRCP programme.

(d) and (e) NRCP is an ongoing programme of the Ministry and has been categorized as a Core Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Government.

Statement

State-wise details of projects sanctioned under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) during the last three years and current financial year

Sl. No.	State/Name of project	Sanctioned Cost (₹ in crore)	Sanction date	Central funds released/utilized till date (₹ in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Nagaland			
	Pollution abatement of Diphu and Dhansiri rivers at Dimapur	82.80	04.03.2014	14.50

1	2	3	4	5
2	Gujarat			
	Sabarmati River Conservation Project Phase-II at Ahmedabad	444.44	29.10.2014	33.79
3	Maharashtra			
	Pollution Abatement of River Mula-Mutha at Pune	990.26	14.01.2016	25.99
	TOTAL	1517.50		74.28

**Denotification of forest lands for industrial purposes
in Andhra Pradesh**

852. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any request from the Andhra Pradesh Government to denotify forest lands for non-forest uses or for industrial purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent of land requested and the purpose for which it was requested; and
- (d) whether Government has denotified any forest land during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) No proposal for denotification of forest land under Section 2 (i) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) However 5 proposals for diversion of forest land for industrial purposes involving a total of 5229.42 Ha. of forest land under Section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been received. The details are as below:

1. Proposal for diversion of 1018.22 hectares of forest land in Compartment Nos. 209, 211 and 212 of Nallajerla R.F., Eluru Division for establishment of Industrial hub, in favour of Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited (APIIC Ltd.) for Establishing Industrial Park.