

Board(CPCB) has informed that some complaints referring to killing of fishes come to the notice of CPCB for which specific investigations were conducted by its team of experts. During its investigation it was found that the death of fishes occurred due to reduced Dissolved Oxygen, discharge of molasses and low amount of pesticide used by miscreants for fish catching.

It is the responsibility of State Governments/concerned local bodies to ensure proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated so that the untreated sewage is not discharged in rivers and other water bodies, thereby polluting them. This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments.

To ensure proper treatment of municipal wastewater before discharge into the rivers, CPCB has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in the country for setting up of STPs in their respective States. CPCB also issued directions in October, 2015 to municipal authorities of 184 towns (66 metropolitan cities and State capitals + towns along river Ganga) under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to ensure proper treatment and disposal of sewage generated for abatement of pollution of rivers.

Further, to control discharge of industrial effluents, CPCB and respective SPCBs/ PCCs monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take action for non-compliance under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. To improve the monitoring of compliance, directions have been issued by CPCB to specific industries to install online 24x7 effluent monitoring systems. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste concept in grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.

Statistical data of forestry sector

1610. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether statistical data relating to forestry sector is not available;
- (b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to create a database to have an updated knowledge of forestry wealth;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is shortage of timber products, medicinal plants, paper, gum, rubber, raw material and fruits due to shrinking forests in the country;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (g) the steps taken to overcome this problem; and
- (h) the details of revenue earned from forests during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, a subordinate organization under the Ministry has been carrying out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). In addition, Forest Survey of India conducts inventory of forests within and outside forests using data from 17000 sample plots spread over the entire country to generate State and national level estimates of growing stock, forest carbon and bamboo. These statistics are published in ISFR. As per the latest report *i.e.* ISFR- 2017, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,02,088 square kilometers (forest cover 7,08,273 square kilometer, tree cover 93815 square kilometer) which is 24.39% of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 8,021 square kilometer (forest cover 6,778 square kilometer, tree cover 1,243 square kilometer) of total forest and tree cover compared to that of ISFR-2015. There is no proposal to create another database on forestry wealth of the country.

(e) As per Asia Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study-II conducted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, there was a shortage of 59 million cubic meter of wood in 2015 which is predicted to further increase to 61.3 million cubic meter in 2020. No study has been conducted by this Ministry to assess shortage of medicinal plants, paper, gum, rubber, raw material and fruits from forests.

(f) and (g) Various schemes are being implemented by Central and State Governments to increase the supply of timber, medicinal plants, paper, gum, rubber, raw material and fruits from forests. These include Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM) being implemented by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. GIM is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change. GIM activities were started in the Financial Year 2015-16. NAP is for afforestation and eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas through people's participation.

Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund.

(h) The details of revenue earned by State Forest Department from forest for the year 2014-15 to 2016-17 are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of revenue earned by State/UT Forest Department
from 2014-15 to 2016-17*

(₹ in crore)			
State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	437.00	473.65	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	NA	NA	NA
Assam	42.86	56.93	140.06
Bihar	NA	NA	NA
Chhattisgarh	399.00	410.23	2.31
			(upto Oct 2016)
Goa	NA	NA	NA
Gujarat	46.70	130.36	153.08
Haryana	39.11	52.29	56.27
Himachal Pradesh	11.57	34.47	18.50
Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA
Karnataka	174.11	170.00	265.00
Kerala	300.40	290.21	NA
Madhya Pradesh	1073.94	699.85	NA
Maharashtra	211.99	227.20	175.19
Manipur	NA	NA	NA
Meghalaya	68.55	72.08	79.30

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	5.20	3.10	2.82
Nagaland	8.91	5.74	8.31
Punjab	19.44	NA	NA
Rajasthan	51.28	131.81	111.00
Sikkim	9.34	12.47	NA
Tamil Nadu	NA	NA	NA
Telangana	82.08	108.21	NA
Tripura	9.83	11.86	11.01
Uttar Pradesh	412.92	629.40	NA
Uttarakhand	349.06	358.50	322.21
West Bengal	135.69	86.74	126.22
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20.80	25.20	26.12
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NA	NA	NA
Puducherry	NA	NA	NA

Eco-sensitive areas in Western Ghats

1611. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is finding it difficult to bring on board various States for earmarking Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) in Western Ghats;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any fresh attempt to bring consensus among various States to declare certain areas as Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) in Western Ghats;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The draft Notification to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats has been republished thrice. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) had issued first draft