Besides, MoEF&CC fixes afforestation targets under 20 point Programme annually to each State/UTs. Tree Plantation/Afforestation activities, being the multi departmental effort, are taken up cross-sectorally by various Departments, NGOs, Civil Societies, Corporate bodies etc. under various Central and State Plan/Non Plan Schemes.

Radiation from cellphone towers harming birds, insects and plants

1618. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that European Union (EU) funded review body EKLIPSE has concluded that radiation from cellphone towers, phone masts, WiFi and broadcast transmitters is a potential risk to insect and bird orientation and plant health;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken cognisance of the fact that the report found that the magnetic orientation of birds mammals and invertebrates such as insects and spiders could be disrupted by Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not received report from EU funded review body EKLIPSE regarding radiation from cellphone towers, phone masts, WiFi and broadcast transmitters being potential risk to insect and bird orientation and plant health.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Curbing pollution in Delhi

1619. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi has become the most polluted city in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) steps taken by Government in curbing the pollution in Delhi;

(d) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of NCT Delhi with regard to curbing air pollution;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Ministry thereto; and