

**Public Out reach**

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Delhi Government launched Clean Air for Delhi Campaign from 10th - 23rd Feb. 2018 and to check air polluting activities pre and post Diwali, a special campaign called "Clean Air Campaign" during November 01, 2018 to November 10, 2018.
- Ministry is promoting peoples participation and awareness building among citizens for environmental conservation through Green Goods Deeds that focus on promotion of cycling, saving water and electricity, growing trees, proper maintenance of vehicles, following of lane discipline and reducing congestion on roads by car pooling etc.
- Development of mechanism for redressal of public complaints regarding air pollution issues in Delhi and NCR (through 'Sameer App', 'Emails' ([aircomplaints.cpcb@gov.in](mailto:aircomplaints.cpcb@gov.in)) and 'Social Media Networks' (Facebook and Twitter) etc.

**Environmental clearance for Peripheral Ring Road in Bengaluru**

3195. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the environmental clearance has been given to the Karnataka Government for the construction of the Peripheral Ring Road in Bengaluru city; and
- (b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO) : (a) and (b) The project has not been granted Environmental Clearance by this Ministry. However, the Karnataka State Environment Impact Assessment Authority has granted Environmental Clearance for development of an eight lane Peripheral Ring Road connecting Tumkur Road to Hosur Road for a total length of 65 kms.

**Movement for GM crops**

3196. SHRI D. RAJA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the spread of a movement for pro GM

(Genetically Modified) crops in Maharashtra in defiance of the ban on planting unapproved Herbicide Tolerant BT cotton seeds;

(b) whether it is a fact that farmers in some other States have also started cultivating GM cotton and Brinjal in defiance of the ban on planting such crops; and

(c) If so, the details and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO) : (a) A Farmers' Union had sown Herbicide Tolerant BT cotton seed as a token in July 2019, The Government is not aware of spread of a pro-GM (Genetically Modified) crop movement in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) This Ministry has received complaints on illegal cultivation of Genetically Modified (GM) Cotton and Brinjal in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab, All States/Union Territories (UTs) have been directed to constitute and strengthen State/UT Biotechnology Coordination Committees and District Level Committees for monitoring instances of illegal cultivation of GM Crops and taking appropriate action under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

#### **Pollution in major rivers**

3197. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/norms of standard level of water pollution for major rivers of the country set by Government;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to check the water pollution *vis-a-vis* standard level of pollution of such rivers during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details and outcome thereof, State-wise;

(c) the complaints against sugar mills and other operational factories for causing water pollution of such rivers received by Government during the said period, State-wise; and

(d) the details of corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO) : (a) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has specified water quality criteria for various 'Designated Best Uses'