

- (b) 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 Central Government has taken a number of initiatives for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in urban areas due to the burning of fossil fuels in heavy industries and plants. These inter alia include imposing the stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs), Closure of Badarpur thermal power plant from 15th October, 2018, Banning of Pet coke and furnace oil as fuel in Delhi and NCR States, imported pet coke can be used only a feedstock across the country, installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices in all red category industries in Delhi and NCR, 503 industrial units in Delhi- NCR have installed it out of about 599 units, revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time, SO_x and NO_x standards for boilers have been introduced, about 2800 brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR, Only brick kilns with zig zag technology can operate in Delhi and NCR, out of about 4700 industrial units in Delhi - NCR, about 2600 units have shifted to PNG.

All these measures helped in the improvement of overall air quality in the country. Further, on the analysis of last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), across the country, it is observed that most of the cities were within the National Standards with respect to parameters of SO₂ and NO₂. With respect to PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, 18 and 12 cities respectively showed decreasing trend. In reference to Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019 as compared to that of 2016. The number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 108 in 2016.

Ban of Manjha

1487. SHRMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal has banned the manufacturing and sale of Manjha in India alarmed by large number of accidental deaths during kite flying in festive seasons caused by use of synthetic kite strings (Manjha) coated with finely powdered glass;
- (b) whether the illegal use of Manjha for flying kite invokes the Environment (Protection) Act, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Wildlife (Protection) Act for causing accidental deaths to birds; and

(c) whether despite several State Government banning the use of Manjha, there is no sustained endeavour to enforce the penal provisions under the said Acts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Yes. Sir. The National Green Tribunal has banned manufacture, sale, storage, purchase and use of Manjha in India.

(b) Yes. Sir. The illegal use of Manjha for flying kite invokes Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act for causing accidental deaths to birds.

(c) Cruelty to animal is an offence under Section 11(1) of the Prevention of cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and its Rule. The Animal Welfare Board of India has also issued several advisories/circulars to see that the animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering.

Emission of Green House Gases

†1488. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decreasing Carbon in soil on account of the desertification of land due to soil erosion is becoming a leading cause of increase in emission of Green House Gases and climate change;

(b) whether the experts, while having deliberations on the report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have opined that the agriculture, forests and land use accounts for one third of Total global emissions and deforestation leads to more emission of Green House Gases; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to nullify the ill-effects of land erosion by the year 2030?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in 2014 has assessed the increase in the annual anthropogenic Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions between 2000 and 2010. According to this report, TOTAL annual anthropogenic GHG emissions have increased by about 10 Gt CO₂eq. Since 2000, GHG emissions have been growing in all sectors, except in agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU). In 2010, 35% of GHG emissions were

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.