

(b) whether it is also a fact that the highest number of trees were felled in 2018-19;

(c) if so, the reasons for increased leniency in permission for felling of trees; and

(d) whether the rate of felling of trees is sustainable in the face of climate crisis engulfing India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Government Policy is to ensure more trees are planted than removed under different developmental proposals approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In the last five years 1,09,75,844 number of trees were removed and plantation of more than 12,60,00,000 trees have been stipulated under compensatory afforestation. The trees are removed only when it is absolutely necessary. Because of this policy, India's forest cover is increasing.

(b) This is nearly same every year.

(c) and (d) As per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of India accords prior permission for change in land use from forest to non-forest. Such permissions are accorded subject to recommendation of the concerned State/UT Government and for unavoidable developmental projects/purposes. While according such permissions, it is ensured that minimum number of trees are removed which are inevitable. Government of India is committed to achieve the goals enshrined in the National Forest Policy and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) target of 2.5 to 3.0 billion tonnes CO₂ equivalent by 2030. Government's efforts to plant more trees than removed has also been reflected in the assessments in biennial India State of Forest Reports (ISFR) by Forest Survey of India. As per the biennial edition of ISFR of 2015, the forest and tree cover has been increased by 4902.6 sq km over that of 2013 assessment and as per ISFR 2017, the forest and tree cover has increased by 8021 sq km as compared to that of ISFR 2015.

List of factories emitting toxic pollutants

1476. DR. KANWARDEEPSINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has the list of factories emitting toxic pollutants and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any feedback from various stakeholders/groups to protect the States from the effects of pollution;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has given any instruction to State Governments to formulate schemes to stop pollution; and

(e) whether the State Governments have executed any plan or initiated any measures in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring and inspecting industrial units based on alerts generated from Online Continuous Effluent/Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) and taking appropriate action against non-complying industries as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. A TOTAL of 663 industries have been inspected during the last 3 years and the current year till 21.11.2019 and 385 directions have been issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to non-complying industries and 1 direction issued under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air and Water Acts to State Pollution Control Board. Industrial sector-wise-details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Further, Consultation with stakeholders concerned is an integral part of the process of formulation of various policy initiatives. Feedback, as and when received from stakeholders, have been duly considered and necessary appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate pollution impact.

(d) and (e) The Central Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 under the Central Sector “Control of Pollution” Scheme as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. Under this programme, 102 non-attainment cities have been identified based on ambient air quality data for the period 2011 - 2015 and WHO report 2014/2018. City specific Action Plans have been approved for all 102 non-attainment cities and directions have been issued under Section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to States for ground implementation of these action plans.

CPCB in association with the State Pollution Control Boards is monitoring the water quality of rivers across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the

National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. Based on the monitoring results in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), a key indicator of organic pollution, CPCB have identified 351 polluted stretches on 323 rivers in the country. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has directed all State Governments and UT Administrations to prepare action plans for bringing all polluted river stretches identified by CPCB to be fit at least for bathing purposes. Action plans have been prepared by the River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) constituted in each State/ UT.

The State Governments and Urban Local bodies are also extended support by the Central Government for abatement of pollution of rivers for implementation of schemes like 'Namami Gange', National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), etc.

Statement

*Sector-wise number of industries inspected and action
taken from 2016 to till 21.11.2019*

| Sl. No. | Sector | No. of Industries Inspected | No. of Directions issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 | No. of Directions issued under Section 18(l)(b) of Air and Water Acts |
|---------|----------------|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Refineries | 22 | 15 | 0 |
| 2. | Fertilizer | 42 | 23 | 0 |
| 3. | Dye | 33 | 21 | 0 |
| 4. | Pharmaceutical | 62 | 38 | 0 |
| 5. | Pesticide | 34 | 13 | 0 |
| 6. | Caustic | 20 | 12 | 0 |
| 7. | Petrochemical | 22 | 23 | 0 |
| 8. | Power | 85 | 44 | 0 |
| 9. | Aluminium | 10 | 8 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|--------------|-----|-----|---|
| 10. | Copper | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 11. | Zinc | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 12. | Steel | 76 | 49 | 0 |
| 13. | Cement | 124 | 64 | 0 |
| 14. | Sugar | 20 | 9 | 1 |
| 15. | Pulp & Paper | 46 | 28 | 0 |
| 16. | Distillery | 40 | 17 | 0 |
| 17. | Tannery | 22 | 18 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | 663 | 385 | 1 |

**Impact of data centres and cloud computing
on the environment**

1477. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the impact of data centres and cloud computing on the environment;
- (b) if so, steps being taken to reduce the damage caused to the environment; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is planning to do so in the near future and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) Centralised data processing mainframes, minicomputers etc. are after end of their life considered as e-Waste and producers of the same have been mandated to take back the equipment for sound management of e-waste under Extended Producers Responsibility obligations as per E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016.

Conservation of tigers

1478. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's efforts have yielded in increase in tiger population in India;