

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure safety of marine life, since the oil and gas firms, looking to conduct exploratory drilling have been exempted from obtaining environmental clearance; and

(c) whether any stakeholders comprising of environmental experts were consulted before notifying the above said exemptions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The requirement of prior environmental clearance has not been exempted for on-shore and off shore exploratory drilling. Such projects or activities have only been re-categorized from category 'A' to category 'B2' and therefore, such projects require environmental clearance from the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority. Further, the Ministry has issued standard environmental clearance conditions to be prescribed while granting the environmental clearances to address the environmental impacts.

(c) The proposal for the re-categorization of the on-shore and off-shore oil and gas exploration projects or activities from category 'A' to category 'B2' has been deliberated by the Expert Committee constituted for the purpose of streamlining of EC process as part of the comprehensive review of the EIA Notification, 2006.

Online Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems

2454. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms under which industries are targeted to install Online Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems (OCEMS);

(b) number of independent audits done of industrial OCEMS operations to ensure there is no tampering of systems; and

(c) number of OCEMS installed in the districts of Faridabad, Gurgaon, Mewat, Rohtak, Sonapat, Rewari, Jhajjar, Panipat, Palwal, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Jind, Karnal, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Bulandshahr, Baghpat, Hapur, Shamli, Muzaffarnagar, Alwar and Bharatpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued direction under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to all State Pollution Control Board (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) to further direct 17 categories of highly polluting industries, Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs), biomedical facility and common hazardous waste facility for installation of Online Continuous stack Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS). CPCB also issued directions under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to SPCBs/PCCs of National Capital Region (NCR) to direct all red category, air polluting industries located in 23 districts of NCR to install OCEMS. There are 3700 OCEMS installed across country, which provides information on emission status at an interval of 15 minutes to the PCBs servers. The industries covered include 17 categories of highly polluting industries, red categories of industries.

(b) CPCB carries out remote calibration check of instruments installed in the industries to ensure non-tampering of OCEMS. Since the year 2018, CPCB has performed remote calibration audit of OCEMS of 164 stacks in 90 industries. Of these, 148 stacks in 78 industries were found to meet the criteria and others were directed to re-calibrate their instruments.

In addition, CPCB carries out physical inspections of industries on the basis of data received from OCEMS analysers. CPCB has carried out inspection of 700 industries falling under the 17 category of highly polluting industries during the period 01.04.2016 to 04.03.2020.

(c) District-wise status of installation of OCEMS is as below:-

Sl. No.	District	No. of units with OCEMS installed and connected with CPCB Server
1	2	3
1.	Faridabad	7
2.	Gurgaon	3

1	2	3
3.	Mewat	Nil
4.	Rohtak	3
5.	Sonepat	10
6.	Rewari	1
7.	Jhajjar	9
8.	Panipat	10
9.	Palwal	1
10.	Bhiwani	5
11.	Mahendragarh	Nil
12.	Jind	1
13.	Karnal	10
14.	Meerut	21
15.	Ghaziabad	13
16.	Gautam Budh Nagar	4
17.	Bulandshahr	7
18.	Baghpat	3
19.	Hapur	5
20.	Shamli	2
21.	Muzaffarnagar	27
22.	Alwar	12
23.	Bharatpur	Nil
TOTAL		154

Conservation of Asiatic Lions

2455. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans any special Centrally sponsored scheme for Asiatic Lion of Gir, Gujarat on the lines of Tigers like Project Tiger etc.;