

environmental clearance and has, thereafter, implemented a complete online system by developing an integrated portal named PARIVESH. The State level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) and State Expert Appraisal Committees (SEACs) have been functioning over the years and the said institutions have gained expertise and maturity. Therefore, the Draft EIA Notification, 2020 consolidates the developments that have taken place on technology, institutional and regulatory areas. It also incorporates the directions of the Hon'ble Court/Tribunal on various issues.

(c) to (e) The draft EIA Notification, 2020 was published in the Official Gazette on 11th April, 2020 for seeking comments of the public. The said Notification was available for public comments up to 11th August, 2020. Several comments/suggestions have been received from various stakeholders across the country and an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Wate, former Director, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has been constituted for review/deliberation on the comments and suggestions received on the draft Environmental Notification.

### **Inundation in Blackbuck National Park**

†53. SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact a large number of Blackbucks have been affected due to the rainwater inundation in Blackbuck National Park of Bhavnagar district of Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that reason behind this inundation in Blackbuck National Park is the stoppage of water by salt farm in violation of Special Economic Zone (SEZ) rules; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) No, Sir, Large number of Blackbucks have not been effected due to the rain water inundation in Blackbuck National Park of Bhavnagar district of Gujarat.

(b) No, Sir. It is not due to stoppage of water by salt farm.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The Government of Gujarat has adopted various measures like preparation of circular and linear raised platforms, within and outside Blackbuck National Park, round the clock patrolling and monitoring of wild animals, pre-monsoon meeting of staff with local villagers and mitigation measures to ensure draining out of rain water.

**Reducing emission levels of coal fired power plants**

54. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised guidelines for reducing emission levels of country's coal fired power plants to meet the standards set in December 2015 by the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether high penalties/closure notices will be issued for non compliantairshed plants during the peak winter pollution months in Delhi NCR; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) In order to meet the standards set in December 2015, Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) and Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) phasing-in plan for every power plant in the country was prepared by the Ministry of Power in 2017. The plan included unit wise timelines for implementation of standards for each plant varying from March 2018 to December 2022. The timeline for plant within NCR and 300 kms of Delhi were set to Decernber 2019 by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

(c) and (d) CPCB has issued directions on 08.05.2020 under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to levy environmental compensation of ₹ 18 lakhs per month per unit with effect from 01.01.2020 on non-compliant power plants in Delhi NCR, namely Aravali Thermal Power Station, Jhjahr and National Capital Territory Thermal Power Station, Dadri Thermal Power Station of NTPC Ltd. and Panipat Thermal Power station, Panipat of HPGCL as these plants have failed to comply the standards by 31.12.2019. However, the directions to impose Environmental Compensation have been stayed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in vide order dated 19.06.2020 and 31.08.2020 in the matter W.P. (C) No. 13029 of 1985 respectively