

with local bodies and National Productivity Council conducted 18 training programmes for various stakeholders like industries, SPCBs & local bodies, local recyclers etc. during the period June 2017 to March 2018. In addition, CPCB has an Environmental Training Unit, which coordinates and conducts training programme for the officials of CPCB/SPCBs/PCCs on a regular/annual basis on different issues including e-waste management. CPCB also conducted four training programmes for producers of electrical and electronic equipment during the period February, 2017 to September, 2017.

(h) Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 the responsibility of collection of e-waste has been vested with Producers, Refurbishers, Dismantlers and Recyclers of e-waste. Only they can set up collection centres. There is no plan to utilise existing infrastructure such as universities and office spaces as e-waste collection centres under the present guidelines and rules.

#### **Nagar Van Scheme**

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

(a) whether the World Environment Day, 2020 was celebrated in the country recently and if so, the details and the main theme thereof;

(b) whether Government has launched the Nagar Van Scheme and if so, the details thereof and the aims and objectives of the Scheme;

(c) whether many of the forest cover in the urban areas in the country are vanishing very fast, putting the ecology in threat and if so, the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to boost and develop urban forests in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change celebrated World Environment Day (WED) on 5th June, 2020. This year the theme was Nagar Van (Urban Forest) to focus on the importance of urban forests.

(b) to (d) Forest lands in urban areas are generally degraded and face various threats of encroachment, misuse, deforestation, etc. With a view to protect such forest

lands in urban areas and to create forested areas in urban cities, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the 'Nagar Van' Scheme on WED, 2020.

The Nagar Van Scheme aims at creation of 200 Nagar Vans in cities having Municipal Corporation. Such Nagar Vans are proposed to be created primarily on forest lands having minimum 10 ha to maximum 50 ha area. Under the scheme, financial support is provided for fencing, water and soil conservation measures etc. The scheme is to be implemented in a collaborative mode by State Forest Departments with involvement of other stakeholders including Non-Government Organizations, Corporate bodies, Civic Societies, etc.

Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out assessment of forest cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State Forest Report (ISFR). As per the latest report *i.e.* ISFR- 2019, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,07,276 square kilometre (forest cover 7,12,249 square kilometre, tree cover 95,027 square kilometre) which is 24.56% of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 5,188 square kilometre (forest cover 3,976 square kilometre, tree cover 1,212 square kilometre) of total forest and tree cover in the country, including urban areas, compared to that reported in ISFR-2017

#### **Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2020**

76. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2020 legitimises *ex post facto* environmental clearances and encourages industries with no prior clearance to commence operations and eventually get regularized by paying a penalty amount (Clause 22);

(b) whether draft EIA notification allows only project proponents and Government authorities to officially report cognisance of violations (Clause 22 (1)) and non compliance of conditions (Clause 23 (1)), curbing the rights of any other concerned or affected person; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The draft EIA