Written Answers to			[19 September, 2020] Unstarred	Unstarred Questions 65	
1	2	3	4	5	
3.	Madhya Pradesh	01	Vindhyachal STPS, NTPC Ltd. (Unit - 13)	Wet Scrubber	
4.	Maharashtra	08	JSW Ratnagiri TPS (Unit - 1, 2, 3, 4) Adani Dahanu TPS (Unit - 1 & 2) Tata Power Trombay TPS (Unit - 5 & 8)	Wet Scrubber	
5.	Tamil Nadu	02	IL&FS TNPCL (Unit - 1 & 2)	Wet Scrubber	
6.	Uttar Pradesh	02	NCTPS Dadri, NTPC Ltd. (Unit - 1 & 2)	DSI	
	Total	18			

Floods and poor soil quality caused due to dams

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that rivers also carry vibrant matter and life and Himalayan rivers used to bring fine silt to north Bihar which was deposited across the plains, making it one of the most fertile agricultural regions;
- (b) the embankments cut off this efficient transport of nutrients, making the land poorer;
- (c) whether each year the river Kosi carries 19 cubic meters of sediment per hectare, five times higher than any other river in Bihar and is unable to deposit this sediment and thereby raising its bed, making floods an inevitability; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) Erosion and deposition of silt is a natural process in alluvial rivers. Rivers pickup, carry and drop silt load as per their regime condition i.e. discharge in the river, river slope, morphology, nature of silt etc., Floods are natural calamity that India faces almost every year, in varying degrees of magnitude due to various factors, *viz.* wide variations in rainfall; both in time and space, inadequate carrying capacities of rivers, river bank erosion, landslides, poor

natural drainage, snow melt, glacial lake out bursts and silting of river beds. As per a study carried out by Central Water Commission after the floods of August 2016 in Bihar, it is observed that sedimentation in river Ganga is basically due to huge sediment load contributed from its Northern tributaries *viz*. Ghaghra, Gandak and Kosi. When these rivers come out of hilly terrain the sediment laden monsoon water drops a lot of sediment due to drop in river bed slope in plain area. This is a natural phenomenon.

New EIA Notification

836. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that new Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification considers many projects under exempted list as they are outside the purview of EIA;
- (b) if so, the details of such exempted list of projects under EIA and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that violations can only be reported by a Government representative or the project proponent and not by citizens according to the new EIA Notification; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) No Sir. The draft EIA Notification 2020, has introduced new exemptions only where clean technology is involved; pollution potential is low or the activity is at a small scale (MSME sector). The activities which are now exempted, *inter alia*, include Research and Development activities of laboratory scale and not involving commercial production, secondary metallurgical projects up to a certain threshold, manufacturing of country liquor up to 10 KLD; aerial ropeways in non-eco sensitive areas.

(c) and (d) No Sir. The draft EIA Notification 2020 does not curb the right of any concerned or affected person to report cases of violation. Clauses 22 (1) and 23 (1) of the Draft EIA Notification, 2020 mention that the cognizance of violation or non-compliance shall be made on the basis of (a) Suo moto application of project proponent, (b) Report by any Government authority, (c) Violation/Non-compliance found during the