

Environmental issues

8.82 The development of a diversified industrial structure, based on a combination of large and small-scale industries, along with growing population has led to growing incidence of air, water and land degradation. Industrial effluents are a major source of water pollution. As regards solid wastes, flyash, phospho-gypsum and iron and steel slag are the main forms of solid wastes generated. Out of 2,744 industries identified under the 17 categories of polluting industries, 1,991 units have set up pollution control devices to comply with the standards, 339 units have been closed, and action has been taken against the 414 defaulting units up to June 2007.

Policy initiatives

- Following the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee and on reviewing the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification so as to enable environmentally sustainable use of coastal resources, pilot studies on drawing up the vulnerability line for CRZ were initiated and are continuing.
- Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change was constituted in June 2007 to coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change. An Expert Committee on impact of climate change has also been set up to study the impact of anthropogenic climate change and to identify measures required therein.
- Under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), set up under the Kyoto Protocol, India has registered 283 (so far the highest by any country) out of 812 total projects registered by the CDM Board till October 2007.