

Some of the suggestions and strategies contained in the report have already been reflected in the policies and regulations of the Government. The Government has also taken steps in the areas of clean technology, vehicular pollution, reduction of green house gases, etc. Various activities have been taken up under the World Bank assisted "Environmental Management Capacity Building Project" to make the process of environmental clearance more effective.

Corruption in forest management

1075. SHRI URKHAO GWAR BRAHMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of indigenous people of Assam have become homeless due to the ongoing eviction operation, in the name of clearance of forest land;

(b) whether it is a fact the large scale department corruption in management of forests is responsible for the present degradation of forest properties in Assam; and

(c) if so, whether Government would institute any Commission to enquire into the departmental corruption?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No. Sir. The Government of Assam has reported that only encroachers in Reserved Forests have been evicted.

(b) No such information has been reported.

(c) Does not arise.

Protection of rare species in Manipur

1076. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rare brow-antlered deer Sangai and several varieties of birds available in Manipur are on the verge of extinction; and

(b) if so, the action taken to protect the rare species from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The population of Sangai in Keibul Lumjao National