

Statement*Environmental clearance*

| S.No. | Name of the project | Pending Since | Reason for pendency |
|-------|--|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. | 150 MW CCPP at Tanir Bavi Distt. Dakshina Kannada near Mangalore by M/s. Tanir Bavi Power Co. | April, 1997 | Under Process |
| 2. | 4X250MW Mysore TPS at Chamalpura, Mysore Dist, by M/s. Mysore Power generation Ltd. | August, 1997 | -do- |
| 3. | 65 MW DG based power plant near Bellary Karnataka by M/s. Sree Raoyalaseema Alkalies and Allied Chemicals Ltd. | June, 1998 | -do- |

Forestry clearance

Nil

Clandestine export of tiger bone powder

2614. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leopards and tigers killed during the last three years and how many tiger poachers have been booked and prosecuted;

(b) whether the tiger bone powder is clandestinely exported; if so, what measures Government have taken to arrest such an act;

(c) whether FIRs are not effectively prepared or there are loopholes in the Act itself; and

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to make, the Act and the administrative machinery effective during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):

(a) According to reports received from States, the number of

leopard and tiger poaching incidents detected during the last three years is as under:—

| Year | Leopard | Tiger |
|------|---------|-------|
| 1995 | 29 | 5 |
| 1996 | 31 | 6 |
| 1997 | 27 | 4 |

The information regarding prosecution of tiger poachers is being collected and same will be laid on the Table of the House

(b) From the seizure reports of tiger derivatives, it appears that a clandestine trade in tiger bones exists. The Government has taken several steps to arrest poaching and trade in tiger parts which are given in the Statement. (*See below*)

(c) and (d) The field staff lacks sufficient training on enforcement of law. This at times can lead to shortcomings in primary offence reports. States have been advised to organise suitable training of enforcement staff.

The Wildlife (Protection) Act is quite comprehensive and there are no loopholes in it. Moreover, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is in the process of being amended to make the enforcement more effective. Similarly administrative measures have also been taken as indicated in the Statement to Part (b) (See below).

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to Protect Tiger and to Control Illegal Trade of Tiger Parts

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

(ii) Special measures for protection and Conservation of tiger, leopard and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii) A network of 441 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. Km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna.

(iv) Raids are carried out by the wild-life authorities, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife animals reaches them

(v) International Trade in Endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The trade in ivory is totally banned.

(vi) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

(vii) Inter-departmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisation like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.

(viii) A "Tiger Crisis Cell" has been set up in the Ministry to suggest improve-

ment in the management of tiger bearing areas of the country.

(ix) The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.

(x) Steps are being initiated to set up "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas;

(xi) A Protocol has been signed with the Govt. of Peoples' Republic of China to coordinate bilateral issues concerning, tiger conservation and to check smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body; and

(xii) Steps have initiated by the Government to establish the 'Global' Tiger Forum' for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat throughout the tiger range countries.

Development of forest resources in the Ninth Five Year Plan

2615. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to develop forest resources in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government have also made any review on the total forest resources destroyed and forest areas degraded during the Eighth Five Year Plan alongwith afforestation made in that plan;

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof alongwith the plan formulated and target set for development of forest resources in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Forest Survey of India (FSI), assesses the change in the forest cover of the Country biennially and publish a State of Forest Report. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, the assessment of