

(c) how many poachers were arrested from the Wild Life Sanctuaries with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) As informed by the State Forest Department, there are no reports of poaching in the national parks and sanctuaries of Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Clearance of Tourism Development Project of Madhya Pradesh

3544. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Tourism Development Projects in Madhya Pradesh are pending for environment clearance;

(b) if so, what are the details of those projects;

(c) the details of measures taken to expedite clearance of these projects; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

CIDA aid in the field of environment

3545. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the broad features proposed by Canadian International Development Agency, the Canadian version of USAID regarding massive programme of environment friendly training and technology transfer to India from September next year;

(b) whether the schemes/plans envisage environmentally sustainable industrial development also; and

(c) if so, whether the major industrial bodies have been taken into confidence; if so, what was their reaction to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Canada has signed the following two Agreements with India for Canadian assistance for supporting programmes in the area of environment sector;

- India Canada Environment Facility project of 20th October, 1992 having a total outlay of Canadian Dollar 72 million.
- CII Environmental Management Project in India, of 10th October, 1994 having a total outlay of Canadian Dollar 7 million.

While the India Canada Environment Facility (ICEF) Project aims to support projects in the field of Environment protection and sustainable development, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Environmental Management Project in India will be implemented by Confederation of Indian Industries to raise the environmental awareness among Indian industry and to act as a catalyst in the adoption of eco-efficient industrial practices and technologists.

"National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992"

3546. DR. NAUNihal SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Clause 4 in the National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992, which granted exemption to Government agencies has been deleted; if so, under what circumstances; and

(b) whether Government have framed guidelines so as to ensure that Government agencies pay a fair compensation to victims; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) On the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests, Government has decided to delete Clause 4 which grants exemption to the Government agencies from the purview of the National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992.

(b) Since government agencies are to be treated on par with private companies with respect to the provisions of the National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992, there is no necessity for a separate set of guidelines in this regard.

Trade of "Shahtoosh" Wool

3547. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee to inquire into the procurement and trade of the precious Shahtoosh Wool as it has become a matter of controversy with Chinese authorities, demanding complete ban on sale and trade of items made of "Shahtoosh";

(b) if so, the precise circumstances leading thereto and the controversy with China; and

(c) the terms of reference of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A team, consisting of officials from the Forest Department of Jammu & Kashmir, Scientist from the Wildlife Institute of India and representatives of the Kashmir Handicrafts

Traders Welfare Association has been asked to visit the Ladakh area in Jammu and Kashmir to look into the various issues of the Shahtoosh trade.

Shahtoosh is the underwool obtained from the Tibetan antelope. There are two views on the method of procurement of this wool. According to one view the procurement of Shahtoosh involves killing of the Tibetan antelope. The other view is that it does not involve killing of the animal as the wool is shed by the animal and is collected from the area. The Chinese authorities have voiced their concern at killing of the antelope for Shahtoosh in their country at international meetings and have sought support of India and Nepal. This species is listed in Appendix I of CITES and thus there is a ban on its international trade. The CITES Secretariat have also brought this issue to the notice of the Govt. of India for taking necessary action under the convention and national laws.

(c) The joint team will attempt to address the issues relating to—

(i) alleged killings of the animal

(ii) exact species from which the wool is being obtained

(iii) ascertaining the method of collection of the wool.

(iv) identification of the illegal trade route if any.

Provision for checking Pollution

3548. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the provisions to check pollution of various types like pollution of air, water, sound etc. in our country; and

(b) what is the impact on environment of the coal of 45 per cent above ash being used in our power houses?