

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and how much amount so far has been spent on the operation, cleaning of river under "Ganga Action Plan" indicating separately the amount spent/sanctioned by the Central Government and funds released by the major states like U.P., Bihar and West Bengal till 31.10.1992?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is a Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (environment) of the Planning Commission which monitors various aspects including the aspect of water quality of the river Ganga. 27 water quality monitoring stations along the Ganga have been set up and water quality is being regularly monitored with regard to 142 parameters. The Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (E&F) also regularly reviews the various aspects of the Ganga Action Plan. The Central Ganga Authority as the highest body for the Ganga Action Plan under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister also reviews its entire progress. Based on the review undertaken by the Government, remedial measures are taken by the Ganga Project Directorate, the State Governments and the executing agencies. With the completion of many schemes upto and including those in Kanpur and Allahabad, water quality both in Kanpur and Allahabad has shown improvement.

(d) Under Ganga Action Plan a total of 261 schemes have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 347.22 crores. The schemes include interception, diversion and treatment of sewage, setting up of electric crematoria, low cost sanitation and river front facilities in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. The entire cost of the programme is being borne by Government of India. So far a sum of Rs. 311.38 crores has been spent.

#### **fflution due to automobiles**

248. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in India Today dated 15th November, 1992 "Bombay Taxis Go Green"; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take that the entire automobile industry becomes pollution free?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to control vehicular pollution include.

(i) Gross and mass emission standards for all types of vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989; (ii) Draft notification in respect of mass emission standards for petrol and diesel driven vehicles for the year 1995 has been issued under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989; (iii) Steps have been initiated to introduce compressed natural gas (CNG) as an alternative fuel for petrol and diesel in major metropolitan cities.

#### **Environment clearance of projects**

249. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several projects of Karnataka have been stalled due to the non-grant of environment clearance to these projects and if so, the details of the projects which are pending for over 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and above; and

(b) whether Government are aware that this delay is seriously affecting the industrial growth of the State and discouraging industrial enterprise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Since May, 1992 following two projects viz.

(i) Expansion of Mining facilities at Kudremukh by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. and

(ii) Construction of Second Stage Fishing Landing Facilities at Malpe Fishing Harbour

are pending with the Government. There is no information with the Government to state that industrial growth in Karnataka has been affected due to non-grant of clearance to the above projects from environmental angle.

#### Air, Water and Noise Pollution

250. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major metropolitan cities of the country are the most polluted human settlements in the world;

(b) whether Government have identified the sources of pollution and also assessed the extent of pollution as a result thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures are being taken by Government to bring down the level of air, water and noise pollution in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board has estimated that the major causes of pollution in metropolitan areas are vehicular pollution and domestic wastes.

(c) The steps taken to bring down the level of air, water and noise pollution in cities are as follows:

(i) Effluent, emission and ambient noise standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; (ii) Environment guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirement of the State Pollution Control Board to limit the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated standards;

(iv) The Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments, have prepared an action plan to meet the effluent and emission standards for polluting industries;

(v) Fiscal incentives are being provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas;

(vi) Network of ambient air quality and ambient water quality monitoring stations have been set up. (vii) A scheme has been initiated to give assistance to cluster of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants.

#### वन क्षेत्र में खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति

251. श्री शिवचरण सिंह: क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम बनने के पश्चात् किन-किन राज्यों में वन क्षेत्र में खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है;

(ख) क्या खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति प्रदान करने के लिए केन्द्रीय वन विभाग द्वारा "अनापत्ति प्रमाणपत्र" जारी किए हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी इस अधिनियम का पालन किए जाने का पक्ष लिया है;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि वनों में अनधिकृत खनन वन विभाग ही करता है; और इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार पर्यावरण-संरक्षण के लिए देश के वनों की कटाई पर तत्काल प्रतिबंध लगाने का विचार रखती है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन सिंह):

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, गुजरात, हिमाचल प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, तमिलनाडु, उत्तर प्रदेश तथा अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह में वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अन्तर्गत खनन के लिए वन भूमि के उपयोग की मंजूरी दी गई है।