

bcrs of the SPCAs and also taken up steps to create public awareness.

- (ii) State Governments are being pursued to nominate nodal officers for coordinating animal welfare activities.
- (iii) Financial support is being extended to SPCAs to enable them to step up their animal welfare activities and take up prosecutions.
- (iv) State Governments have been advised to set up State Advisory Welfare Board.

Indian Plywood Industries Research Institute, Bangalore

259. SHRI JAG1R SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the nature and amount of grants given to the Indian Plywood Industries Research Institute, Bangalore during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government have any control over its management;
- (c) if so, what is the nature of its management; and
- (d) whether its report for the last three years have been made available in the Parliament Library?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) The Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Bangalore, is an autonomous organisation assisted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests dealing with research and utilisation aspects pertaining to Plywood Industry and also undertaking training activities through the Centre for Mechanical Wood Industries established within the Institute.

Government of India provide financial assistance in the shape of Grants-in-aid on year to year basis. The amount of such grants given to the Institute during the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount
1989-90.....	Rs. 49.212
1990-91.....	Rs. 50.000
1991-92.....	Rs. 86.570

The general superintendence, direction and control of the Institute are vested in a Board of Governors of which Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, is the Chairman and the Director, Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute is the Member-Secretary. This Board of Governor comprising Govt. representatives and some representatives from private industries provides guidance and directions on policy and other matters concerning the overall development of the Institute.

The annual reports of the Institute for 1989-90 and 1990-91 have been placed on the table of both the Houses. Reports for 1991-92 is being placed before the Annual General Meeting of the Society of the Institute shortly. Thereafter, it will be placed on the table of the Houses of Parliament.

Chilka Acquaculture Project

260. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the growing agitation of the people against the implementation of the 20 crore Chilka acquaculture project by the Tatas on the ground that the project if implemented will harm the eco-system;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to re-examine the project from the environmental point of view;
- (c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government of Orissa has since allotted 380 acres of additional land for the said Projectj- and

(c) if so, whether the consent from the Central Government was sought for?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) A number of representations have been received from the Non-Government Organisations, Legislators and others regarding the environmental implications of the Chilka project, which is a joint venture of the Government of Orissa and Chilka Aquatic Farm Ltd. The Government of Orissa has been advised to undertake a detailed environmental impact assessment study of the project by a multi-disciplinary group.

(d) The State Government has set apart about 375 hectares of land for the project for making farm ponds.

(e) No, Sir.

Slowing down of work on Ganga Action Plan

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

fa; whether it is a fact that the work on the Ganga Action Plan has slowed down and a number of problems have arisen in regard to maintenance of 'items' already completed and

(b) what steps are being taken to complete the entire project expeditiously and resolve the maintenance problems?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that the work on the Ganga Action Plan has slowed down. The progress on the ongoing schemes is going apace except in a few schemes which are facing the problems of acquisition of land or contractual problems. Regular review of the ongoing schemes is being made in consultation with the State Governments and all steps are being taken to speedily complete them. There was some delay on the part of the State Governments in releasing their share of the cost of operation and maintenance of

the completed schemes. This has since been sorted out.

Forest land in Uttar Pradesh

262. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total average of forest land in U.P. three years ago;

(b) what is the total area denuded during the last three years; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for stopping the illicit felling of trees?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the total assessment of the forest cover made by Forest Survey of India based on visual interpretation of satellite imageries pertaining to the period 1987-89, the total recorded forest area in the State of Uttar Pradesh was 51502 Sq. Kms.

(b) There is a decrease of 18 Sq. Kms. in the existing forest cover in Uttar Pradesh during this period of assessment 1987-89 as compared to the previous assessment pertaining 1985-87.

(c) The various steps taken by the Government to check illicit felling of trees are:—

- i) Guidelines have been issued to State Government/UTs. to consider banning green felling on mountains/hills above 1000 metres;
- ii) Forest protection measures are being intensified including strengthening of infra-structure facilities to curb biotic interference in the forest;
- iii) Enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to check