

Dehradun, (India's Forest, 1987), based on the visual interpretation of satellite imagery pertaining to the period 1981-83, the forest cover of Jammu & Kashmir was 20880 sq. kms., and as per the third and the latest assessment of forest cover based on visual interpretation of satellite imagery pertaining to the period 1987-89, the forest cover of Jammu & Kashmir is 20424 sq. kms., there is thus a loss of forest cover to the tune of 456 sq. kms. in nearly 7 years period.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the State Govt. to stop felling of trees in Jammu & Kashmir:-

(i) Commercial felling of trees in specified catchments in both Jammu and Kashmir regions have been banned since 15-1-1990.

(ii) Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act, 1990 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes.

(iii) The State Govt. have proposed to reduce the annual yield from 8.57 lacs cubic metre prescribed in the working plans to 1.43 lacs cubic metre in 1992-93.

World bank project for Pollution Control Boards of states

2069. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved a World Bank Project, strengthening the technical fiscal and administrative conditions of the pollution control Boards of the States ; and

(b) if so, the detail of this project and by when it is likely to come into force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India entered into an agreement with the World Bank for line of credit for US 155.6 million for a project on "Industrial Pollution Control". Activities under the project, which has commenced from November 6 1991, include the following :

(i) To strengthen the monitoring and enforcement abilities of the Pollution Control Boards of the industrialised States in the country, via, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) Provision of loans to individual units to instal appropriate pollution control devices.

(iii) To provide grant and loan assistance for the establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for the combined treatment of effluents from clusters of small-scale units.

(iv) To introduce clean technologies which would have a minimum generation of wastes through demonstration projects and studies

(v) To support a training programme of the staff of Pollution Control Boards and of the financial institutions involved in the Project.

Forest area of some districts in Madhya Pradesh

2070. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA :

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

(a) whether Government are aware that due to mining of coal in Shahdol, Sarguja and Sidhi Districts in Madhya Pradesh, the forests in these areas have completely vanished ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the loss of forest areas therein ; and

(c) what action Government propose to take for the afforestation of such coal mining areas in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Approvals for diversion of 3504,885 hac. forest land in Shahdol, Sarguja and Sidhi Districts in Madhya Pradesh for Coal Mining have been accorded by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 since its enactment upto 30-6-1992. Approvals for diversion of forest land have been accorded after considering all the relevant aspects including likely effect of mining on flora and fauna.

(c) While according approvals for diversion of forest land, compensatory Afforestation over 4904,130 hac has been stipulated.

Encroachments on the forest land

2071. SHRI KAILASH NARAIN SARANG : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have indicated in its circular issued through its letter dated 18th September, 1990 that encroachments made on the forest lands upto 24th October, 1980 may be regularised and encroachments made after that date cannot be regularised ;

(b) whether proposals in this regard have been sent by Madhya Pradesh Government for taking policy decisions for regularisation of encroachments made upto 24th October, 1980 ;

(c) whether Government of India denying its circular dated 18th September, 1990, is considering not to grant permission in such cases ; and

(d) whether Government in the interest of tribals would reconsider to grant permission for regularisation of encroachment made on forest lands upto the 24th October, 1980 ; and if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (d) Detailed Guidelines have been issued regarding regularisation of encroachments on forest land. The proposals received from Madhya Pradesh State Government in this regard have been examined and in conformity with these Guidelines, approvals for diversion of 1-03,873. 658 ha forest land for regularisation of encroachments in favour of eligible encroachers have already been accorded under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

वन्य जीव संरक्षण अधिनियम में संशोधन

2072. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 2 अक्टूबर, 1991 से वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 में कोई संशोधन किए गए हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या ये संशोधन मध्य प्रदेश राज्य पर भी लागू होंगे ;

(ग) सरकार द्वारा, उक्त अधिनियम के प्रवृत्त होने के बाद श्रुतिपूर्ति के रूप में मध्य प्रदेश के आदिवासियों/किसानों को दिये जा रहे वन उत्पादों की संभावित कमी को पूरा करने के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की जा रही है ; और

(घ) वृक्षों की कटाई से संबंधित कार्य बढ़ हो जाने और अभ्यारण्य क्षेत्र में विभिन्न छोटे-छोटे वन-उत्पादों का संग्रह करने पर रोक लगा दिए जाने के कारण लगभग 3 करोड़ श्रम दिवसों के रोजगार की