

(d) the steps taken to stop the unabated felling of trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) As per the visual interpretation of satellite imagery of forest cover in Orissa pertaining to the period 1985-87 and 1987-89 by Forest Survey of India, there has been slight decrease in the total forest cover to the tune of 22 Sq. Kms. only.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Orissa have taken stringent measures for increasing forest cover and also for conservation of forests. Some of the important measures are detailed below:—

(i) Commercial tree felling have been banned in five tribal districts of Bolangir, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Koraput & Ganjam covering an area of 28,635 Sq. Kms. of forests.

(ii) Involvement of people in protection of reserved forests and protected forests through assignment of peripheral forests to Village Forest Protection Committees (5589 in Nos.), covering forest areas of 13,996 Sq. Kms.

(iii) Special Protection Force have been deployed and also very high frequency Wireless Sets have been installed in five Territorial divisions.

(iv) Social Forestry Plantation programmes in 2039 village forests have been taken up.

#### Environment Protection Act

3049. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that environment clearance from the State Pollution Control Boards and or the Central Government is compulsory for all new industrial units and for any expansion or modernisation of existing units; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to achieve this object?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Only the public sector industrial projects with an investment of more than Rs. 20 crores presently require environmental clearance from the Central Government. State pollution Control Boards do not give environmental clearance. A preliminary notification has been issued on 29th January, 1992 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for making environmental clearance a mandatory requirement so that adverse environmental impacts can be controlled for private sector projects also.

#### वन्यप्राणी संरक्षण अधिनियम

3050. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वन्य प्राणी संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 में 2 अक्टूबर, 1991 से कोई संशोधन किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या ये संशोधन मध्य प्रदेश पर भी लागू होते हैं ; और

(ग) इस अधिनियम को कार्यान्वित किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप वर्तमान में मध्य प्रदेश में आदिवासियों/किसानों को सप्लाई किए जा रहे विभिन्न वनोपजों की जो कमी होगी, उसकी क्षतिपूर्ति करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने क्या प्रबंध किए ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमलनाथ) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां ।