

non-submission of essential information expeditiously.

Production and Export of Red Sandal Wood

214. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the forests in Cuddapah and Chittoor districts of Andhra Pradesh are famous for Red Sandal Wood for which there is good market in Japan ;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to increase the production and export of Red Sandal Wood ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no such specific proposal under Central Govt's consideration. However, there is already plantation activity going on in the districts of Chittoor, Cuddapah and Nellore to increase production of Red Sanders.

Rise in Pollution in Delhi

215. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "Alarming rise in pollution" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 31-1-92;

(b) whether it is a fact that the efforts made by the Delhi Administration to check pollution in the capital have not yielded any results;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that a number of vehicles on road in the capital are running with poisonous fumes; and

(d) the steps are contemplating by Government to check the pollution in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The steps taken by Delhi Administration to control pollution include the following:—

(i) The Transport Department has been implementing a plan scheme 'control of air pollution from exhaust of motor vehicles'.

(ii) Free facilities of pollution checking have been provided.

(iii) The Transport Department has formulated a detailed scheme in July 1990 for certification of pollution standards of private vehicles registered in Delhi. Under the scheme vehicle owners have to obtain pollution control check certificate for their vehicles according to their registration numbers as per prescribed time schedule. For this purpose 115 private workshops and petrol pumps have been authorised to provide pollution checking and tuning facilities. These centres have provided pollution checking facilities to approximately 6.86 lakhs vehicles between July 1990 and January 1992. Approximately 2.01 lakh polluting vehicles were tuned and their pollution level brought within prescribed standards. A total number of 12.68 lakh vehicle owners have availed pollution checking facilities between March 1990 and January 1992 and approximately 1.67 lakh vehicle owners have been issued warning slips for non-compliance of standards prescribed in the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(iv) A prosecution drive was launched in the month of April 1990. 4901 vehicles have been challenged till January 1992 in accordance with the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(v) Certificate of fitness of approximately 5330 transport vehicles has been cancelled and their vehicle owners have been instructed to bring their vehicles the prescribed standards before obtaining certificate of fitness.

(d) The steps taken by the government to check pollution in the capital include the following:—

(1) Gross emission standards for all types of on the road vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules 1989, and these have come into force from March 1, 1990.

(2) The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorate including Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration to enforce the gross emission standards.

- (3) Every manufacturer of Motor Vehicle is required to submit the prototype of the vehicles manufactured for test by an agency specified by the government, and give certificate of conformity of production on the compliance of the provisions of the Rules including emission standards. The provision has come into force from April 1, 1991.
- (4) The mass emission standards for vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules 1989. The standards for petrol driven vehicles have come into force from April 1, 1991 and the standards for diesel driven vehicles shall come into force from April 1, 1992.
- (5) Regular enforcement drive is being carried out on the roads of the capital against the vehicles which are not conforming to the prescribed standards.
- (6) Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has launched an awareness campaign about vehicular pollution, health hazards as well as maintenance of procedures to control vehicular pollution.
- (7) Checking facilities have been provided to assess pollution from vehicles as well as facilities for rectification by tuning of the engine.
- (8) The government has started a programme of running battery powered buses so as to minimise vehicular pollution and improve the ambient air quality in congested areas of traffic.

वन संरक्षण अधिनियम के अधीन लंबित परियोजनायें

216. श्री लक्ष्मीराम अग्रवाल : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वन संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1980 के अधीन केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा प्रमाण पत्र जारी न किये जाने के कारण मध्य प्रदेश राज्य की कई परियोजनायें लम्बित हैं ;

(ख) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर "हां" हो तो ऐसी परियोजनाओं का ध्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार इन लंबित परियोजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन हेतु स्वीकृति देने के लिए वन संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1980 के अधीन प्रमाण-पत्र कब तक जारी करने का विचार रखती है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ): (क) और (ख) 31 जनवरी, 1992 की स्थिति के अनुसार मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम के तहत स्वीकृति के लिए प्राप्त केवल 47 प्रस्ताव केन्द्र सरकार के पास लंबित थे। उपरोक्त प्रस्तावों में से 28 प्रस्ताव सिंचाई परियोजनाओं से संबंधित थे, 14 प्रस्ताव खनन से संबंधित थे, 3 प्रस्ताव पारेषण लाइन और 2 प्रस्ताव विविध परियोजनाओं से संबंधित थे।

(ग) राज्य सरकार से सभी अनिवार्य जानकारी प्राप्त हो जाने के बाद वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के तहत अन्तिम निर्णय तेजी से लिया जाता है।

Felling of Forest Trees in Kerala

217. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selective felling of forest trees are taking place in some parts of Kerala; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to prevent the destruction of forest wealth?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Violation of Pollutions Laws

218. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of companies and industries, along with their locations which have been penalised for violation of pollution laws during the last six months; and

(b) what are the details of action taken against each of them ?