

(6) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards to keep the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated limits.

(7) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(8) 17 categories of heavily polluting industries have been identified and these industries have been asked by the State Government to comply with the effluent/emission standards.

(9) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

(10) Gross and mass emission standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross emission standards with effect from 1st March, 1990.

(11) Public awareness campaigns have been launched about vehicular pollution.

(12) Prosecutions have been launched by the State Transport Directorate against the vehicle owners for violation of vehicular emission standards under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. In addition, certificates of fitness/pollution control certificates of polluting Vehicles are cancelled and their owners are instructed to comply with the prescribed standards, before issue of fresh certificates.

(13) Epidemiological studies have been initiated in heavily polluted areas.

#### **Encroachment of Forests Land by Tribals**

**210. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government in the recent past held discussion with the Government of Madhya Pradesh on the demand for regulation of encroachment of forest land by tribals after 1977 and approval for distribution of pattas to families engaged in cultivation of forest land for the past 12 years in that state; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the discussions held and what decision taken by Government in this regard?

#### **THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):**

(a) and (B) Diversion of 1.03 lakhs hectares forests land for regularisation of pre 1980 encroachments in favour of eligible encroachers has been approved by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As per guidelines issued by the Ministry, diversion of forest land for regularisation of encroachments in favour of encroachers found ineligible as per criteria fixed by the State Government in 1978 can not be approved. This has been explained during discussions held with the State Government Officials in the recent past.

#### **Harm to Human Health besides Environmental Pollution**

**211. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the thermal power stations in the country throw up one lakh tonnes of fly-ash every day, thereby causing immense harm to human health besides environmental pollution at a large scale ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recently released report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climatic Change (IPCC) has again focussed attention on the fact that emissions from industrial activities on earth are substantially increasing the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases ;

(c) whether the global temperature would increase by 0.3 degrees celsius per decade if man-made pollution of the atmosphere is left unchecked ; and

(d) if so, what extent Government propose to counter these environmental and pollution hazards ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :** (a) It is estimated that thermal power stations in the country are generating about one lakh tonnes of fly-ash per day, creating environmental problems.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) There is considerable scientific uncertainty about the rate at which global temperatures may increase on account of human activities.

(d) India does not make any significant contribution to the concentration of greenhouse gases. With regard to fly-ash, Government have initiated several steps including the following :—

- (i) Use of fly-ash in building materials like bricks, canal lining, agoregate for road-building, cement etc. is being encouraged. Central and State Government agencies have been advised to make maximum use of fly-ash for construction works, and even modify Public Works Department Manuals if necessary.
- (ii) Instructions have been issued for free supply of fly-ash to entrepreneurs who are willing to set up units for the production of fly-ash based products.
- (iii) Filling up of abandoned mines by fly-ash is being encouraged.
- (iv) Use of fly-ash as fertilizer for increasing agricultural production is being encouraged.
- (v) Extraction of cenosphere from fly-ash is also a possibility.
- (vi) Maximum fly-ash utilisation plans as a component of future thermal power projects is being insisted soon.
- (vii) The impact assessment environmental clearance is given to those coal based power stations which propose lining of the ash cond areas, so as to prevent pollution by seepage.

#### **Tigers and Leopards in Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka**

212. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is reconsidering the prey predator research study on tigers and leopards conducted in Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to save these Tigers and Leopards from extinction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) A research project

under the Indo-US Rupee Fund Programme on the ecology of large carnivores is under implementation in the Nagarhole National Park, Karnataka. The project involves tranquilising and radio collaring of tigers, panthers and other animals in the Park with the prior approval of the State Government. The Government of Karnataka, vide their order dated the 10th January, 1991 have banned further tranquilising, collaring or otherwise endangering any animal as a part of the above research project. Subject to the above condition, work related to the project is being continued. It is not correct to presume that the tigers and leopards in Nagarhole National Park are facing any threat of extinction.

#### **Forest Act**

213. SHRI VITHALBHAI M PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the purpose of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 is to minimise the diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes ;

(b) what are the proposals Government have received from Government of Gujarat in this regard and the reasons for not clearing the proposals ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have adopted a rigorous approach even when the forest land diversion proposals are for essential purposes-like water supply, electricity, transmission lines and construction of school buildings etc; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for delay in clearing the proposals received from the Gujarat Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non-forestry use.

(b) Since enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, 378 proposals were received from the Government of Gujarat for diversion of forest land for non-forestry uses, out of which only 7 proposals were pending as on 31-1-1992.

(c) and (d) All proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are examined on merits and diversion of forest land is approved whenever it is found necessary. After receipt of all the essential details, final decision for diversion of forest land is taken expeditiously. The main reason for delay, if at all, is