

(b) whether the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers are also competent to assess the age of the illiterate recruits at the time of enrolment; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, under which rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) There is no appointment as Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer existing in the Recruiting Organisations of the three Services. No illiterate persons are currently recruited in the Armed Forces.

(c) Does not arise.

Pollution of Jhanji River in Assam

1361. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURA-GOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that the Nagaland Pulp and Paper Mills Limited at Tuli in Nagaland has completely polluted the water of the Jhanji river in Sibsagar district of Assam;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the water of the Jhanji river was used by numerous villages situated on both the banks of the river for drinking and other household purposes and it has become impossible to use it now;

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to prevent the pollution; and

(d) whether a time-bound plan has taken up by Government to keep the said river pollution-free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The Nagaland Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd., Tuli, has caused pollution of the Jhanji river as the effluent of the mill does not conform to the prescribed standards

(c) and (d). The Nagaland Pulp and Paper Mills Limited has installed an effluent treatment plant as well as a 6 Km. long pipe line for discharging of the effluent away from the river. The Mill authorities have also been asked to set up a

colour removal plant for the effluent. The Regional Committee on Environment for the North Eastern Region has been asked to study the effect of discharging treated effluents on forest land, as an alternative.

Pollution in Assam, villages by the operations of ONGC

1362. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURA-GOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has polluted a large number of villages in Assam at the time of drilling and other operations and the river Doria in Sibsagar district has been completely polluted if so what steps are being taken by Government to check the pollution caused by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): In Upper Assam, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) operates oil fields at Lakwa, Rudrasagar and Galeki. The total quantity of waste water generated in these oil fields from drilling and processing is around 4000 M3 per day. The waste water from drilling is, as far as possible, used in all the three oil fields and is treated. The waste water from processing in Lakwa is treated; in Rudrasagar and Galeki the effluent treatment plants are under construction.

Increase in Number of CAD/CAM Computers

1363. SHRI BEKAL UTAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of CAD/CAM Computers is fast increasing in the country;

(b) if so, what are the projections for their growth during the next five years;

(c) what are the details of measures being taken by Government to ensure that obsolete equipment is not offloaded by certain foreign multi-nationals going in for collaboration for the production of CAD/CAM systems in India; and