

Power of nodal officers in environmental matters

†2457. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) in which States the nodal officers of the Department of Environment and Forests have been empowered to settle the environmental matters of the concerned States;

(b) whether the Ministry is contemplating upon any plan to seek common people's advice on matters relating to environment through website; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has designated some officers of the Ministry as nodal officers for different States for undertaking visits and discussing pending environmental and forestry matters with the concerned officers in the States for finding appropriate solutions.

(b) and (c) The draft legislations and notifications are placed on the website of the Ministry for seeking comments from the stakeholders and general public.

Conservation of Dal Lake

2458.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conservation of Dal Lake in Kashmir is receiving any attention currently from the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The project of 'Conservation & Management Plan for Dal-Nagin Lake in Srinagar', J&K has been sanctioned in September, 2005 for Rs. 298.76 crore under the National Lake Conservation Plan of Ministry of Environment & Forests. Works relating to various components of the project namely, sewerage system and sewage treatment plants, hydraulic works, solid waste management, catchment area treatment, dredging and de-weeding, shore-line development works, public awareness & participation, etc. are under execution by J&K Lakes & Waterways Development Authority, the State implementing agency for the project. An amount of Rs. 142.87 crore has been made available so far by Government of India to the implementing agency for the project, against which an expenditure of Rs. 131.32 crore has been incurred till end of May, 2009. Three sewage treatment plants having a treatment capacity of 15.2 mld (million litres per day) have been commissioned.

Grants to Maharashtra

2459.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of amount given as grant by the Ministry to the Maharashtra Government during the last three years for various projects;

(b) whether the State Government has used this grant to the particular project or diverted this fund to other project(s); and

(c) whether the State Government has been submitting periodical reports on the expenditure to the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The details of funds given by Union Ministry of Environment and Forests to the State of Maharashtra under its schemes/projects during the last three years (2006-07 to 2008-09) are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	National Lake Conservation Plan	230.00	100.00	75.50
2.	National River Conservation Plan	1009.00	521.47	0.00
3.	National Afforestation Programme	1593.09	2991.77	2187.03
4.	Intensification of Forest Management	103.46*	232.84	232.00
5.	Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats	223.85	331.33	390.22
6.	Project Tiger	238.56	295.72	411.12
7.	Project Elephant	50.40	56.30	77.76
8.	Environment Education and Awareness (Directorate of Social Forestry, Maharashtra)	237.30	232.53	236.35
9.	Environmental Information System (ENVIS) (Environment Department, Maharashtra)	0.00	6.93	2.67
10.	Assistance for Abatement of Pollution (Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)	0.00	0.00	35.42
11.	Common Effluent Treatment Plant (Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)	223.03	262.09	323.94

*Funds were sanctioned but adjusted against the earlier unspent funds.

(b) The grants have been utilized for the projects for which these were sanctioned.

(c) Yes, Sir. Periodical reports/ utilization certificates on the schemes/projects are submitted to this Ministry; as required by the Government of Maharashtra.

Implementation of environmental policies

2460.SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: