

December 2009 for adoption at the fifteenth Conference of Parties (COP-15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and fifth Meeting of Parties (MOP-5) to the Kyoto Protocol.

#### **Damage to environment and ecology**

888. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether there has been a feeling that the present National Environment Policy, 2006 and Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 are causing damage to the environment and ecology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The National Environment Policy seeks to extend the existing policies for environmental management for ensuring sustainable development by integrating the environmental concerns in the developmental projects. It recognizes that while conservation of environmental resources is necessary to secure livelihoods and well being of all, the most secure basis for conservation is to ensure that people dependent on particular resources obtain better livelihoods from the fact of conservation, than from degradation of resources. The policy also seeks to stimulate partnership of different stakeholders in harnessing their respective resources and strength for environmental management.

The Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 requires developmental projects/activities/processes, listed therein to obtain prior environmental clearance under the provisions thereof so as to ensure that environmental concerns associated with these projects are duly integrated and addressed during different stages of project cycle. Ministry of Environment & Forests is not aware of any such feeling that the National Environment Policy, 2006 and Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 are causing damage to the environment and ecology.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to para (a) above.

#### **Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans**

889. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of working of Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans and how far these have been effective in checking pollution of these two dying rivers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures proposed to be taken to rescue these dying rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I was launched as a centrally