

(c) The mandate of the World Health Organization (WHO) includes prescribing guidelines in respect of ambient air quality which have been issued from time to time, the latest being in 2005. WHO Guidelines are global in nature and do not take into account the local conditions. WHO air quality guidelines (2005) are in respect of Particulate Matter, Sulphur Dioxide, Nitrogen Dioxide and Ozone.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken various measures to control air pollution which *inter-alia* includes implementation of notified emission standards for industries and generator sets. Implementation of action plan for air quality management in 16 cities including Hyderabad is being undertaken.

Implementation of emission norms for new and in-use vehicles and fuel quality in accordance with the Road Map of the Auto Fuel Policy, introduction of cleaner fuel in public transport and strengthening of mass transportation is underway.

(f) It is difficult to allocate a time line for the achievement of the said WHO Air Quality Guidelines.

Regulation on Coastal Management Zone

898. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a former expert with the United Nations Development Fund had opined in 2008 that measures provided in the draft regulation on Coastal Management Zone, *i.e.*, India's 6600 kilometre-long coastline were inadequate to protect the environment;

(b) whether views of the Green Lobby, seeking demolition of existing dwelling units and other infrastructure on the seaward side, were considered; and

(c) how Government is ensuring protection of environment especially in the coastal belt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Large number of suggestions and objections have been received on the draft Coastal Management Zone Notification issued on 1st May, 2008, which was renotified on 21st July, 2008 from various stakeholders including from the United Nations Development Programme Office, New Delhi. These suggestions and objections include comments on the protection of the coastal environment, livelihood security, protection of dwelling units of local communities etc. For the purpose of examining these suggestions and objections and to advise on the policy and legal framework, the Ministry has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan, which shall submit its report by 15th July, 2009.

(c) For the purpose of conserving and protecting the coastal environment, the Ministry has issued the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991, which regulates developmental activities in the zone.