

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken into consideration that the commitment in this regard does not hamper the development needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) The Government has conveyed to the Parliament that India can have a 20-25 % reduction in emissions intensity between 2005 & 2020. This will be a voluntary domestic commitment and will not form part of any international agreement committing to binding emission intensity or emission reduction targets.

The exercise in Planning Commission has found that the emission intensity has declined by 17.06 % between 1990 and 2005. Further the Planning Commission has concluded that we can have a 20-25 % reduction in emissions intensity between 2005 & 2020. The government is fully committed to Sustainable Development in the Country.

Amendment in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act

*460.DR. GYANPRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several amendments have been proposed by her Ministry in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, to widen its scope and make the punishments more stringent;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the rationale therefor;

(c) the efficacies of the shelter homes run by her Ministry, their number and their average annual occupancy; and

(d) to what extent the Ujjawala scheme has been effective in prevention of trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed Amendments inter-alia include raising the age of the child from 16 to 18 years, having a comprehensive definition for 'trafficking in persons', laying down punishment for a person who visits a brothel for purpose of sexual exploitation of trafficked victims, providing for "in-camera" trial to victims to protect their privacy and constitution of Central and State Authorities for dealing with trafficking. There is also a proposal to make Amendments to provide for enhanced punishment for perpetrators of the crime such as brothel keepers and traffickers. The purport of these Amendments is to extend the coverage of the Act, discourage trafficking and at the same time provide safeguards to the trafficked victims.

(c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been providing financial assistance to NGOs for setting up Shelter Homes. Under the Ujjawala Scheme, 58 Protective and Rehabilitative Homes have been set up which can accommodate nearly 2900 trafficked victims. These Homes provide facilities such as shelter, food, clothing, medical care, legal aid, education and vocational training to these victims.

In addition, there are 384 Short-Stay Homes and 314 Swadhar Homes across the country which can accommodate 28,405 women in difficult circumstances including the trafficked victims.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the Scheme of Ujjawala, in December, 2007 wherein, prevention of trafficking is included as a specific component. There has been an encouraging response to the Scheme. Financial assistance has already been provided to 94 NGOs for activities which include formation of community vigilance groups and adolescents groups, organizing sensitization workshops/seminars and awareness generation through mass media. In addition, the Ministry conducts training and capacity building as well as sensitization programmes for prevention of trafficking. Since, prevention of trafficking is a long term activity it is difficult to assess its impact in such a short period.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Violation of pollution rules by Coal India Ltd.

‡3392. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether, for want of approval of the Central Pollution Control Board, the production from open-cast coal mines of Ghodawadi sub-area of Kanhan Coalfields of Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh had to be discontinued;

(b) whether police has registered a case against the employees of Coal India Ltd. for the violation of pollution rules and for production in excess of the rules;

(c) if so, the persons responsible for such violation and the action taken against them; and

(d) the action being taken by the management to resume mining operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Police has not registered any case against any employee of any subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) for the violation of pollution rules and production in excess of rules. However, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Jabalpur has registered two Court Cases against Mohan (Maori) underground (UG) mine and Ghorawari (Jharna) UG of Kanhan Area, Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) for increasing production in excess of rules.

Barring the above, no police/court case has been registered against any employee of any subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) for the violation of pollution rules and production in excess of rules.

(c) The matter connected with the court cases relating to Mohan (Maori) UG mine and Ghorawari (Jharana) UG of Kanhan Area, WCL is sub-judice.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.