

5. The State / Union Territory Governments have been advised to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas.
6. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

**Illegal construction / plotting on green areas in NCR**

4039. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether action Government has taken to stop illegal construction / plotting on green areas by the colonizers in NCR especially in Delhi;
- (b) whether Government is aware that colonizers are bringing up illegal colonies on the green belts in South Delhi in connivance with the local police;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that a large portion of green belt has been converted into unauthorized colonies in NCR; and
- (d) if so, what action Government is taking against these colonizers, police officials and State Government officials of NCR who are involved in such activities and polluting the Delhi and NCR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the Ministry of Urban Development, land is a Subject listed in List II *i.e.* State List of the VIth Schedule of the Constitution of India. The Ministry of Urban Development, therefore, does not maintain information regarding illegal construction or illegal plotting on green areas by the colonizers in the National Capital Region. As far as Delhi is concerned, land continues to be a Subject administered by Central Government under the provisions of Article 239 AA of the Constitution of India. As far as National Territory of Delhi (NCTD) is concerned, neither Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD), Delhi Police nor Delhi Development Authority (DDA) have reported in their Reports received in February, 2010 by the Ministry of Urban Development that unauthorized colonies are still coming up in green areas or agricultural land. As far as Delhi is concerned, a decision has been to regularize unauthorized colonies which existed as per aerial survey of 2002 excluding those inhabited by affluent sections. Unauthorized colonies falling in notified or reserved forest areas are not eligible for regularization. Pursuant to that decision, at total of 1639 applications have been received by GNCTD

for regularization and appropriate action to regularize these colonies within the ambit of the Guidelines and Regulations issued for this purpose.

#### **National afforestation scheme**

4040. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Afforestation Programme Scheme provides support both physical and capacity building term to Forest Development Agencies;

(b) if so, the work done under the scheme during 2008-09 and 2009-10 and how the work done commensurate with the amount of money spent; and

(c) the extent to which work done has helped in controlling global warming and melting of glaciers on Himalayas in Indian side?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Afforestation Programme provides assistance to the Forest Development Agencies for implementing projects to regenerate degraded forest lands through the participation of Joint Forest Management Committees. The two components of 'Training and Capacity Building' and 'Overheads' envisage activities for *inter alia* capacity building of Forest Development Agencies.

(b) An amount of 345.62 crores was released for treating 1.73 lakh hectares under the programme during the year 2008-09. During 2009-10 Rs. 318.17 crores were provided for treating a total area of 1.03 lakh hectares. There is multilevel monitoring and evaluation mechanism to ensure that the works are commensurate with the funds released.

(c) There are no empirical studies on the impact of National Afforestation Programme in controlling global warming. However, it is now well recognized that afforestation works significantly contribute to controlling global warming through their carbon capturing potential.

#### **Threat to wildlife in forest of Meghalaya**

4041. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is allowing Lafarge India to resume mining in Meghalaya forest which many result into threat to wildlife in the forest of the State;