

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Some of the State Governments, NGOs and some sections of the scientific and farming communities have expressed apprehensions on the safety of Bt brinjal and have called for extreme caution as Bt brinjal is the first genetically modified food crop to be introduced in the country.

(b) The Government has imposed a moratorium on commercialization of Bt brinjal event EE-I on February 09, 2010 till such time independent scientific studies establish, to the satisfaction of both the public and professionals, the safety of the product from the point of view of its long-term impact on human health and environment, including the rich genetic wealth existing in our country.

(c) The Government has not received any latest study reports on Bt. Brinjal.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Review of Forests Right Act**

1111. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to review Forest Rights Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has set up a committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a), question does not arise.

#### **Ecological balance in coastal areas**

1112. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has demanded assistance from the Central Government for plantation to save Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Ganjam and coastal areas of Khurda district from damage being caused by tidal waves;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the action being taken by Government to maintain ecological balance in coastal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Orissa coast extends over a length of 480 Km. covering six coastal districts. As per Forest Survey of India Report (2009), an area of 221 Sq. km is covered