

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under State sector schemes.

Complaints against Vedanta

3272. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any complaints against British mining major Vedanta that it had grabbed forest land; and

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action against the company based on the complaint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Ministry has not received any complaint against British Mining Major Vedanta alleging grabbing of forest land. The Government has accorded in principle approval to the proposal received from the State Government of Orissa for diversion of 660.749 ha of forest land for mining of bauxite ore in Lanjigarh Bauxite Mines in favour of Orissa Mining Corporation (OMCL) in Niyamgiri Hills in Kalahandi district of Orissa stipulating certain conditions. Compliance to these conditions has been received from the State Government of Orissa.

A team consisting of two officials and a non-official member was sent to enquire into alleged violation of the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and impact of the proposed mining project on Tribal Rights and Wildlife Conservation. The report of the team alongwith compliance of the conditions is under consideration of the Ministry.

Gap between Sewage Generation and Sewage Treatment Plant

3273. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a wide gap between domestic Sewage Generation and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity in the country and to the extent of 65 per cent sewage flows into the river and other water bodies untreated leading to large scale pollution of the rivers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what steps are proposed to be taken to install sufficient Sewage Treatment Plants along the major rivers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) According to a recent report of the Central Pollution Control Board, against an estimated sewage generation of about 38254 million litres per day (mld.) from the Class I and II towns of the country, 11787 mld. (35%) is being treated with a capacity gap of 26467 mld. Discharge of untreated wastewater constitutes the major source of pollution load for the rivers.