

Ganga in Shukartal, Laksar and its adjoining areas on 13.7.2010. Directions have been issued by the Central Pollution Control Board to Uttarakhand Environment Protection and Pollution Control Board to check the adequacy of treatment facilities installed by industries in the region and take appropriate measures against the defaulting units.

Establishment of Planet Protection Fund

733. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the proposal made by Ex-Prime Minister Shri-Rajiv Gandhi at the Tenth Summit of the Movement of Non-aligned countries in September, 1989 for the establishment of a Planet Protection Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been followed up or is proposed to be followed up, in the current climate change negotiations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In his speech delivered at the 10th Summit of the Non Aligned countries held in Belgrade on September 5, 1989, the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had proposed the establishment of a Planet Protection Fund (PPF) under the aegis of the UN for the purpose of protecting the environment by developing or purchasing conservation-compatible technologies in critical areas. The Fund was proposed to be set up through global efforts to ensure the development of and access to environment friendly technologies for the benefit of the international community. It was proposed that all constituent members of the Fund contribute a fixed percentage of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) so that the annual contribution to the corpus of the Fund would be around \$ 18 million.

(c) and (d) In the international negotiation on climate change, India has consistently maintained that technology is key to successful and ambitious adaptation and mitigation efforts. India has argued that the developed countries have the responsibility of providing technologies for protection of climate and support capacity building in developing countries for absorption of such technology. India hosted the high-level conference on "Climate Change Technology Development and Transfer" in New Delhi in October, 2009 in collaboration with United Nations Department of

Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to gather international support for global cooperation in technology. India advocates a global mechanism for technology that enables the most rapid and widespread diffusion of existing climate-friendly technologies. India has proposed the concept of a network of technology innovation centres to achieve this goal, which has found widespread acceptance in the discussions within United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Guidelines for exploratory bore holes

734. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of coalfields fell in no-go areas and reserve forests;
- (b) whether Government has any proposal to revisit the existing guidelines for exploratory bore holes in forests; and
- (c) if so, whether it would be justified ecologically and violate the spirit which are meant to conserve the remaining forests in natural habitats in the country and safeguard the water and soil resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests through Forest Survey of India (FSI) and the Ministry of Coal through Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) have jointly undertaken an exercise to overlay the forest cover map or the coal block boundaries in respect of 9 coalfields in the country and identified various coal blocks as category 'A' (No-Go) and Category 'B' (Go). As per this exercise, 153 coal blocks covering about 2,68,000 ha have been categorized as category 'A' out of total number of 602 coal blocks covering about 6,48,750 ha. The exercise for other coalfields is still on.

(b) and (c) The Forest Advisory Committee a statutory committee under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in its meeting held on 17.06.2010, revisited the proposal for exploratory bore holes in forests by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) on the plea that GSI's activities are of general survey nature and done systematically all over the country for locating mineralization for better land use planning. The Committee, after considering the views of Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Coal, GSI, Indian Bureau of Mines & others and taking into account the non-destructive nature of