

(b) The CPCB in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur prepared a plan for improvement of the environment in Vrindavan. A number of project interventions, such as improvement of Banke Bihari Temple area, river front development from Kaliyadhaha Ghat to Kesi Ghat, comprehensive improvement along the roads starting from Vrindavan Nagar Palika via Rangnathji Temple to Banke Bihari Temple were proposed.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between CPCB, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) and Vrindavan Nagar Palika for implementation of these projects. As per terms and conditions of MoU, CPCB has released Rs. 43.00 lakhs to UPPCB for implementing the projects through Vrindavan Nagar Palika. The schemes could not be initiated due to non-sharing of fifty percent of fund by Vrindavan Nagar Palika.

Mangrove Park at Pappinisseri

1507. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has directed closure of the 'Mangrove Park' at Pappinisseri in Kannur district of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Pappinisseri Eco-Tourism Society, which is managing the Mangrove Park, has violated any laws or flouted any rules, in setting up the park; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and action proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Based on a site,visit report submitted by the Regional Office, Bangalore of Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Directions under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been issued on 14th July, 2010 to Shri A. V. Ajay Kumar, Vice President in particular. Near Pappinisseri Paliehayath Office, P.O. Pappinisseri, Kannur, Kerala, the project proponent of Mangrove Theme Park, Kannur to stop all activities relating to the park and also to Chairman, Kerala State Coastal Zone Management Authority to enquire into the matter and to submit a report.

(b) As per the information received from Government of Kerala, the State Government has ordered closure of the park based on the Directions issued by the Ministry.

(c) and (d) As per the site visit report, the Pappinisseri Eco-Tourism Society, which is developing a mangrove theme park at Kannur, have violated the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 by causing destruction of mangroves, construction(s) by reclamation on mangrove land and construction of infrastructure(s) in inter tidal area.

Forest settlement Act

1508. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Forest Settlement Act has been modified;
- (b) if so, the States which have started implementing the same; and
- (c) the details of progress of implementation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not enacted any act titled "Forest Settlement Act"; hence the question of its modification and implementation does not arise.

Confiscated iron ore from the Bellikeri port in Karnataka

1509. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported disappearance of 5 lakh tonnes of confiscated iron ore from the Bellikeri port in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Deputy Conservator of Forests for Karwar, who had been pivotal in the detection, seizing and investigation of iron ore has been suspended by the State Government; and
- (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?