

(d) the other sanctuaries in the country where similar problems may occur in the near future and steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Society has highlighted the problems faced by the Park during 2004 due to non release of water from Banganga and Gambhir Rivers.

(c) The Government is providing necessary technical and financial assistance to the State for providing water through a number of pumps in the Park to tide over this problem. The State Government has also submitted a project for dedicated pipeline from Chambal River to ensure continuous supply of water to the Park.

(d) No such report regarding other Sanctuaries has been received by the Government.

Mangrove plantation along the coastline

3935. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the impact of the recent Tsunami in the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa was greater due to the disappearance of mangrove forests on the coastline as reported in the press;

(b) whether Government propose to have a fresh look at the problem and go in for an aggressive mangrove plantation scheme along the coastline of the country; and

(c) if so, the details of planning thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the available report from Forest Survey of India only a slight decrease in area under Mangroves had been noticed in Andhra Pradesh. There is no evidence of a direct and proportional correlation between impact of Tsunami and density of mangroves. The impact of Tsunami is determined by a number of factors

namely, proximity to the epicenter & magnitude of the earthquake, Tsunami wave pattern and velocity, coastal bathymetry, presence of sandy coastal dunes and buffer of vegetation behind the beaches.

(b) and (c) It is, however, true that mangroves provide protection to coastal areas against erosion, cyclones and tidal waves. The Coastal States and Union Territories have been asked to submit proposals for enhancement of area under mangroves. However, not all coastal areas are suitable for mangrove plantation as mangrove requires an appropriate mix and saline & freshwater, and soft substrate like mudflats to be able to grow and perpetuate.

Review of Coastal Regulation

3936. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to go in for a review of coastal regulations for determining settlement and development along the country's long coastline;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the deficiencies that have been detected in the existing rules and action plan to remove these deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan in July, 2004 to review the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 in the light of findings and recommendations of all previous Expert Committees constituted by the Ministry to address specific issues of CRZ Notification, 1991, various judicial pronouncement relating to CRZ Notification, 1991 and to suggest suitable regulatory framework based on well established scientific principles of Coastal Zone Management. The Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry on 14th February, 2005.