

Removal of Pollutants from forests

3431. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to remove garbage and plastic bags from forests beyond municipal limits, so as to save them from pollution, besides protecting flora and fauna;

(b) whether it is a forest department's responsibility to keep forests pollution free; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that a number of animals get electrocuted while attempting to cross border between India and Pakistan because of electrification of Indian fencing; if so, what steps are being taken to prevent such cruel deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Under Section 27, sub-section (4) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 littering of the grounds of sanctuary is a punishable offence. The said provision of the Act applies to National Parks also. The responsibility of implementing the aforesaid provision vests with the State Forest Departments.

(c) No case of electrocution of animals while attempting to crossing the border between India and Pakistan have been brought to the notice of this Ministry.

Rivers polluted by industries in U.P.

† 3432. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rivers in Uttar Pradesh are getting polluted due to certain industries;

(b) if so, the details of such industries;

(c) whether Government propose to take action against these industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.