

a proposal for 'Snow Leopard Project' under the Species Recovery Programme of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats'. The Ministry has sanctioned release of financial assistance of Rs. 24.16 lakhs for the project during the financial year 2010-11.

- (c) No new proposal has been received from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.
- (d) Does not arise.

Impact of mining on forests

†633. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that mines are situated in dense forests in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of metals which they yield and number of these mines, metal-wise;
- (d) whether dense forests are bound to disappear as a result of production from these mines; and
- (e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Central Government accorded prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of forest land for mining of minerals such as iron ore, bauxite ore, coal, lignite, limestone, manganese ore, chromites, calcite, salt, granite, marble, sandstone, soap stone, sand, boulders, masonry stone, copper, etc. Some of the mines pertaining to these minerals are located in dense forests. The mineral-wise detail of the forest land diverted for mining purposes is being compiled and will be placed before the house.

(d) and (e) Diversion of forest land for mining purpose does results in loss of the forests in the area actually broken up for mining. However, to compensate the loss of forest land and mitigate the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

other adverse impacts, the diversion of forest land for mining purposes is subject to the creation and maintenance of compensatory afforestation, maintenance and regeneration of safety zone, soil conservation measures, phased reclamation of mined area and payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) to be utilized for regeneration and protection of forests.

Extended Producer Responsibility System

*634. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether provision of appropriate economic/financial incentive to stimulate participation by economic agents involved in EPR is intrinsic to EPR;
- (d) if so, the incentive provided to producers, retailers and waste recycling facilities;
- (e) whether the Ministry has defined the range of policy mixes for implementing EPR and thoroughly analyzed it in terms of their economic efficiency and environmental effectiveness; and
- (f) the impact of the EPR on the functioning of recyclable products and materials market in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 on 4th February, 2011. As per these Rules, in line with the principle of Extended Producer's Responsibility (EPR), the municipal authority may ask the manufacturers, either collectively or individually to provide the required finance to establish the plastic waste collection centres.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has published the draft e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2010. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) has been incorporated in the draft rules. Accordingly, the producers are required to finance, and organize a