

percent from vehicles, including diesel vehicles in Delhi. The report does not mention that diesel vehicles and LPG vehicles cause seven percent and 51 percent pollution, respectively in Delhi.

According to a Press Note, dated 8th February, 2011, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi has expressed reservations about certain findings of the study, including those related to the relative contributions of LPG combustion (cooking gas) to air pollution in Delhi.

(c) The various actions being taken to check pollution include, notification of environmental standards for various categories of industry/process, introduction of cleaner fuel as per Auto Fuel Policy for controlling vehicular pollution, enforcement of 'Pollution Under Control (PUC)' certificate system to check exhaust emission from in-use vehicles, implementation of stringent emission norms for generator sets, use of beneficiated/blended coal in coal based thermal power plants, metro network in cities, monitoring of air polluting industries for compliance of notified standards, etc.

Census of wild animals

626. DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether census of wild cats, lions, tigers, leopards, panthers and others have been lately held in different wildlife sanctuaries in the country;

(b) if so, when it was last conducted in all sanctuaries and what are the comparative figures for each species of animals; and

(c) the yearly rate of growth these figures depict, sanctuary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The census of wild animals is periodically carried out by State/UT Governments.

(b) and (c) The sanctuary-wise details are not compiled in the Ministry.

Amendments to Indian forest Act, 1927

627. SHRI R. C. SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to revisit the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to bring in more benign legal regime for settlements between local communities and Government;

(b) If so, the details of amendments proposed and how does the proposed amendments help in reducing encroachment degradation etc;

(c) whether any Committee has been constituted for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal presently to amend sub para (3) of Section 68 (Power to Compound Offences) of Indian Forest Act, 1927 to help the forest officers in proper protection and conservation of forest including reducing degradation, etc.

U-turn on environmental clearance to LAVASA project

628. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given work stop order and refused clearance to the LAVASA Project in 2010;

(b) what were the reasons for the refusal of clearance;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is now ready to give clearance to the project in 2011; and

(d) what are the circumstances that changed between the period when the project was rejected and the period when it was given clearance and the reasons for a U-turn on the decision for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Ministry had received complaints about development of a Hill Station Township "Lavasa City" at Taluka Mulshi and Velhe, District Pune, violating the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notifications 1994, its amendment of 2004 and the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.