

(f) Financial and technical assistance is provided to the State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife.

(g) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', there are provisions for initiating 'Recovery Programme for critically endangered species and their habitats'. 16 endangered species namely Snow leopard, Bustard (including floricans), Dolphins, Hangul, Nilgiri Tahr, Marine turtles, Dugongs and Coral reefs, Edible nest swiftlets, Asian wild buffalo, Nicobar megapode, Manipur brow-antlered deer'. Vultures, Malabar civet, Great one horned or Indian Rhinoceros, Asiatic lion, Swamp deer and Jerdon's Courser are identified for species recovery programme.

#### **Dust pollution**

15. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dust is a bigger culprit than vehicular emission for making air quality bad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has asked the State Governments to prevent dust pollution in towns and cities in the States; and

(d) if so, the response received by the Central Government from the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) (a) and (b) The Central Government has undertaken a study, i.e., 'Air Quality Monitoring, Emission Inventory and Source Apportionment Study for (six) Indian Cities', namely, Delhi, Kanpur, Pune, Mumbai, Chennai and Bengaluru with the help of premier institutions like, IIT-Bombay, IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Madras, NEERI-Nagpur, TERI-New Delhi and ARAI-Pune for identifying the various mobile and stationary sources of dust and the extent of their contribution to ambient air pollution. Vehicular emission is one of the identified sources of dust. The study has been coordinated by the Central Pollution Control Board.

Based on the study conducted, the approximate contribution of transport sector to dust in residential areas varies between 9.8 to 48.3 percent in the cities. Re-suspension of road dust due to movement of vehicles is also a prominent source and accounts for 6.3 to 57.4 percent.

(c) and (d) As an outcome of the study, the Government has undertaken the task to set up Working Groups in respective thematic Ministries to deal with the sectoral recommendations of the study.

#### **Killing of rhinoceros in Assam**

16. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of rhinoceros killing in Assam in the last three years; and
- (b) what steps the Central Government has taken specially to protect one horned rhinoceros in the forest of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The total number of rhinoceros killing in Assam in the last three years are as under:

Year	Total No.
2008	16
<del>2009</del>	<del>14</del>
2010	07

(b) The Central Government provides financial assistance to the State Government of Assam under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for strengthening their anti-poaching activities, improvement of habitats, of wildlife including rhinoceros, and eco-development activities in the fringe areas.

The State Government of Assam has taken various steps for protection of one-horned rhinoceros which are as follows:

- a. Round the clock patrolling duty by the frontline staff and officers is the regular feature of the protection mechanism.
- b. The infrastructure and communication including wireless system has been strengthened in all the rhino bearing Protected Areas.