

(a) the current status of the proposal of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion of red sanders (*Petrocarpus santalinus*) in schedule VI of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to tackle the problem of smuggling of red sanders and to protect the rare and endangered species;

(b) the reasons for delay, if any, in according approval to this proposal; and

(c) by when the approval is likely to be given to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion of Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) in the Schedule VI of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Red Sanders wood is in great demand in the countries like Japan and China, whereas the demand within the country is low. Notwithstanding the proposal of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Red Sanders continues to be included in the negative list of plants species for export purposes, implemented by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Commerce thus placing severe restrictions on the international trade of Red Sanders wood. These restrictions help in conservation of the species.

Emission trading scheme for International airlines

183. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the European Union has decided to bring international airlines under the purview of emission trading scheme;

(b) whether the Union also proposes to bring the maritime transport under this;

(c) if so, whether this is going to affect India severely;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action is being taken to put up India's case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The European Union have not shared any proposal with the Government of India to bring maritime transport under the European Union Emission Trading Scheme(EU-ETS). However, International Maritime Organisation has discussed a proposal to implement a global levy on emissions from international shipping.

(c) to (e) Inclusion of civil aviation emissions under the EU-ETS is likely to adversely affect Indian airlines using European airports if the emissions of their carriers exceed the free allowances given to them under the EU-ETS. The Government of India has expressed concern to the European Union about this unilateral measure both at multilateral and bilateral level.

National River Conservation Plan

184. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has allocated funds to various States under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for river water cleaning during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has sought foreign assistance for conservation of rivers and making them pollution free; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The Centrally sponsored scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) covers polluted stretches of 39 rivers in 185 towns spread over 20 States. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in river conservation by undertaking pollution abatement works on a cost sharing basis under the Plan. An expenditure of Rs.4475 crore has been incurred and sewage treatment capacity of 4417 million litres per day (mld) has been created so far. A statement indicating the State-wise details of funds released during the last three years under the Plan is at Statement. (See below).

External assistance from bilateral/multilateral agencies is availed of from time to time by the Government. For the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I, loan assistance of Yen 17.77 billion was