

Conservation and management of Mangrove forest in Odisha Coast

3427. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received any proposal or financial outlay amounting to 130.73 lakhs for conservation and management of Mangrove forest in Odisha coast; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has received proposals from the State Government of Odisha seeking financial assistance of 130.73 lakhs during 2010-11 for conservation and management of mangrove forest under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. During the year, an amount of 30.25 lakhs has been released to the State Government of Odisha for conservation and management of mangroves at Bhitarkanika, Devi-Kadua and Mahanadi mangrove sites as per their eligibility according to the guidelines of the Ministry. Thereafter, an amount of 62.30 lakhs has also been released against the proposed of 183.34 lakhs during 2011-12 to the State Government of Odisha for conservation and management of mangrove forest.

Utilization of funds collected under substitute forestry scheme

3428. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds collected, so far under the substitute forestry scheme, deposited by various companies, since the imposition of the scheme;

(b) the details of planned utilization of this fund; and

(c) the details of the progress of the scheme, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (c) There is no scheme under the nomenclature of “substitute forestry scheme”. However, whenever forest land is diverted for non forest use under the provisions of the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 the user agencies are required to deposit compensatory levies which are maintained in State-wise accounts by the Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). After providing for allocations to State CAMPAs and to the National CAMPA Advisory Council in terms of the Order dated 10th July, 2009 of the Supreme Court of India in IA No. 2143 in WP (C No. 202/ 1995 : *T N Godavarman Thirumalpad Vs. Union of India & Ors*, an amount of Rs. 22,382 crores is held in interest bearing accounts in nationalized Banks as on 31st March, 2012. In terms of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, against