

**Relocation of elephant herds in Hassan district, Karnataka**

7. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan to relocate the elephant herds in Hassan district in Karnataka to larger elephant habitats or elephant camps;

(b) if not, by when this is likely to happen; and

(c) the areas that have been declared as elephant corridors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The management of elephant herds in States is dealt with by the State Government. Permission to capture translocate the elephants to alternative suitable habitats for their scientific management is accorded by the Central Government under section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 upon receipt of requests in this regard from the concerned State Governments. For a plan of relocation of elephants in Hassan District in Karnataka, permission was granted during November, 2011 to the Government of Karnataka to capture and translocate 25 elephants, subject to laid down conditions, in Alur range of Hassan division. No action in furtherance to the permission has, however, been taken by the State Government in view of the orders passed by the Hon'ble High court of Karnataka in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 14029 of 2008.

(c) Elephant corridors are identified and declared by the concerned State Governments. No elephant corridors have been declared by the Government of Karnataka so far.

**Pollution by Okhla Waste-to-Energy Plant**

8. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that residents residing near Yamuna river in Delhi are facing breathlessness problem due to smoke and odour emanating from Okhla Waste-to-Energy plant;

(b) if so, the details in this regard:

(c) the quantity of waste used so far by the plant and what are the pollutants and toxics being found so far in South Delhi area:

(d) whether Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has approved the technology being used by contractors in the project: and

(e) if not, the action taken against the contractors so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) Complaints were

received against the incineration of municipal waste and its likely harmful effects on the air quality and health of people in the Sukhdev Vihar/Okhla area due to the emissions from Waste-to-Energy plant at Okhla.

(c) As per the information provided by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), till 06.3.2012, a total of 27,469 Metric Tons of municipal solid waste has been utilized and 3,250 Metric Tons of waste is lying in the collection/storage pit in the plant.

DPCC is regularly monitoring the emissions from the stack attached to the plant. Levels of oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) and Hydrochloric acid mist (HCl) are found to be within the standards, as prescribed in the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. However, on four occasions out of ten, levels of particulate matter (PM) exceeded the standard of 150 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.

(d) and (e) As per the Central Pollution Control Board, the technology being used by the Waste-to-Energy plant at Okhla is as specified in the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000.

#### **High level of pollution in Angul – Dhenkanal district of Orissa**

†9. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Angul-Dhenkanal district of Orissa has become the most polluted area because of the presence of a large number of coal mines, iron and steel factories, aluminium factories and electricity production units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has been decided that henceforth no permission will be given for the opening of any new factory in that area keeping in view the environmental issues; and

(d) if so, the reasons for giving permission to open highly polluting industries like coal to liquid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN ): (a) and (b) As per the survey carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi based on the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) criteria, 43 industrial clusters including Angul-Talcher located in Orissa were identified as critically polluted areas. The said industrial cluster has a large number of coal mines, iron and steel factories, aluminium factories and electricity production units. The aggregate CEPI score of Angul-Talcher was found to be 82.09, with respective CEPI scores of Air, Water and Groundwater environment as 64.00, 69.00 and 65.75 respectively.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.