

(b) whether it is also a fact that in India, every seven minutes one woman dies due to complications arising out of cervical cancer;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that cervical cancer is the number one reason for deaths of Indian women, but in metro cities it lags behind cases of breast cancer; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) According to World Health Organisation GLOBOCAN Project, the estimated number of cancer cervix cases world wide is 5,30,000 for the year 2008. According to the latest report of National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on 'Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates (1982-2005)', the estimated number of cancer cervix cases in India for the same period (2008) is about one lakh. The estimated number of deaths due to cervical cancer in Indian women is 52,046 in a year.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, cervical cancer is not the primary reason of deaths in Indian women. However, out of all cancer deaths, cervical cancer is the leading cause of death in women in the country. In urban areas, as per ICMR estimates for the same period, 8377 deaths were due to breast cancer as compared to 8223 deaths due to cervical cancer in women in India.

#### **Rehabilitation of villages from buffer area of forests**

\*231. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously considering declaring all areas of Project Tiger as Buffer Forest Zone and removal of all habitat villages from these areas after providing them adequate rehabilitation package;

(b) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has given any direction in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) No, Sir. The buffer area consisting of the area peripheral to critical tiger habitat or core area aim at promoting

co-existence between wildlife and human activity with due recognition of the livelihood; developmental, social and cultural rights of the local people.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### **Depletion of Natural resources in Western Ghats**

†\*232. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received any information regarding depletion of natural resources of forests of western Ghats region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any action to obtain factual information in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not received any information regarding depletion of natural resources of forests of Western Ghats region. As per India State of Forest Report, 2011 published by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, the forest cover of states lying in the Western Ghats region has increased by 56 km<sup>2</sup> as compared to India State of Forest Report, 2009. The details of the status of forest cover in States constituting Western Ghats as per India State of Forest Report 2009 and 2011 are given in Statement. (See below).

(c) and (d) The Forest Survey of India has been mapping and assessing the country's forest cover biennially which includes the Western Ghats region also.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.