

Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun have not been framed even after completion of 22 years of its existence;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the further steps taken by Government for bringing the scientific, technical and administrative services of ICFRE at par with the CSIR and ICAR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun is an autonomous body of Ministry of Environment and Forests registered under the societies registration act, 1860. The rule and regulation governing Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun are in existence since 1991 .

- (d) No decision has been taken by the Government so far.

#### **Afforestation projects in the country**

1751. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of afforestation in the country;
- (b) whether Government proposes to provide monetary incentives to certain agencies that take interest in such projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether some of such agencies that had been provided monetary incentives had disappeared without doing any work;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to penalize such agencies so as to serve as a deterrent for others; and
- (f) the action plan to control indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) which is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme for tree plantation and eco restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country through people's participation.

As on 31.03.2012, an amount of Rs. 2850.36 crore has been released to the States for the treatment of 18.86 lakhs hectare of degraded forest land under NAP Scheme since its inception in 2002. Apart from NAP, afforestation work is also been carried out by other Ministries under schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Bamboo Mission, 13th Finance Commission etc.

(b) No proposal to provide monetary incentives to any agency is under consideration of the Ministry.

(c) to (e) Questions do not arise.

(f) To control in indiscriminate exploitation of forest resources in the country, the Ministry provides financial assistance to the State Forest Departments under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Intensification of Forest Management' to strengthen their forest protection machinery by way of infrastructure development, use of modern technology, improved mobility by way of deployment of new field vehicles, improved communication and providing arms and ammunition to the frontline forestry force. The grant under the 13 Finance Commission does also have the component for forest protection.

#### **Tiger deaths in Corbett National Park**

1752. SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tigers have been reported dead in Corbett National Park in last one year and three years;

(b) the details of causes of their deaths natural or any other; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government to punish the culprits, if any, involved in any wrong doing including poaching or poisoning of the Big cats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) As reported by State, details of tiger mortality in the Corbett Tiger Reserve during last one year and three years are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) Action against such offenders is taken within the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and other laws by the State authorities who are