

Measures to improve the environmental situation

2656. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps Government has taken to improve the environment situation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government issued any circular in this regard to the companies; 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 Government is committed to protect, conserve and improve the environment situation in the country. These objectives are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures such as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Besides legislative measures, a National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992, a Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and the National Environment Policy, 2006 also guide the Ministry's work.

The Government has taken up several steps to improve the performance of industries/companies to meet the prescribed/stipulated pollution control norms. These steps include:

- (i) Regular vigilance by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards for verifying the compliance by the industries and taking actions against the erring industries.
- (ii) Implementation of charter worked out with the industrial sectors under the corporate responsibility for environmental protection.
- (iii) Implementation of action plans for restoration of environmental quality in critically polluted industrial clusters.
- (iv) Establishing and promoting concept of common effluent treatment plants to treat the waste water generated by the medium and small scale industries.

- (v) Development of standards with respect to polluting categories of industries and enforcing them through State Pollution Control Boards.

Study on Asiatic Lions

2657. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by the Ministry in consultation with State Government of Gujarat for conducting detailed study on probable impact of unprecedented climatic conditions on the Asiatic Lions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of funds will be allocated in this regard and the criteria of this detailed study;

(d) whether any study has already been conducted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the output of the study and the details of action has been taken, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) Presently there is no such proposal with this Ministry.

(d) and (e) No such study has been conducted by this Ministry in consultation with the State Government of Gujarat.

Collaboration with ICMR on environmental problems

2658. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had been collaborating with the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) to tackle the public health issues arising out from environmental problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that any suggestions has been received from ICMR to control the menace of environmental pollution; and