

Blanket ban on plastic in the country

3108. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

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

(a) whether Government proposes for blanket ban on plastic throughout the country in view of the recent observation by Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding pollution due to plastic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government has no proposal for blanket ban on plastic throughout the country. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* order dated 03.04.2013 in SLP (C) No. 16308 of 2007 has, *inter-alia*, directed the Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards, Pollution Control Committees of Union Territories and some municipal corporations to file their respective status reports about compliance of the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 and the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000.

**Impact of unregulated excavation of sand and muck
from rivers in Jammu and Kashmir**

3109. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of unregulated excavation of sand and muck from rivers and rivulets in Jammu and Kashmir on environment;

(b) the number of centuries old irrigation canals rendered dry and useless as a consequence of this;

(c) the names of the species of fish and other animals and plants endangered due to this unregulated excavation; and

- (d) the steps taken/envisaged to arrest this unregulated excavation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected.

Conservation of ancient and traditional medicinal plants

†3110. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken by the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments for conservation of ancient and traditional medicinal plants and birds in forest areas, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) whether any programme or plan has been implemented in Madhya Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) With a purpose of conserving and promoting medicinal plants utilized in the traditional systems of medicines, the Government has set up a National Medicinal Plants Board *vide* resolution notified on 24th November, 2000 under Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Important functions of the Board include co-ordination with Ministries/Departments/Organizations/States/Union Territories (UTs) for the development of the medicinal plant sector. At the State/UT level, State Medicinal Plants Boards (SMPBs) have also been constituted by the States to coordinate conservation and management of medicinal plants.

As per the information furnished by the National Medicinal Plants Board, the following schemes have been implemented by it:

- **Central Sector Scheme for "Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants":**

The Central Sector Scheme for "Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants" was approved by the Government of India on 26th June, 2008 to provide support for Survey, Inventorization, *in-situ* conservation,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.