

(c) the number of vehicle pollution checking centres inspected and the number of centres out of these found involved in forgery; and

(d) the action taken against pollution checking centres involved in forgery and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has reported irregularities at Pollution Under Control (PUC) checking centres in Delhi. The CPCB conducts inspection of PUC to reduce vehicular pollution for improving ambient air quality in Delhi. It was also found that some of the PUC operators were using pirated software to simulate values of the Petrol/Diesel analyzer without inserting the probe/hose-pipe in the vehicle, which may give wrong results.

During December, 2012 and January, 2013, the CPCB has inspected 75 PUC Centres in Delhi, of which 25 PUC Centres were having various irregularities for not following standard testing procedure for measuring vehicular emission. The auditing report was sent to Transport Commissioner, Department of Transport, Government of National Capital Territory, Delhi, which is the nodal Department for ensuring proper functioning of PUC checking Centres.

#### **Survey on environmental situations**

1406. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a survey on the environmental situations resulting in natural calamities like the recently occurred disastrous flood, heavy rain, cloud burst and landslides;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to conduct a study regarding environmental imbalance in coastal areas and hilly areas; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating to review and change laws related to construction of river view apartments, hotels, houses on river banks, hilly areas and sea shore in view of natural disaster in consultation with the concerned State Government; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No specific survey has been done by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on the environmental situations resulting in natural calamities like the recently occurred disastrous flood, heavy rain, cloud burst and landslides.

(c) and (d) Following research activities to study the environmental imbalances in the Indian Himalayan Region has been initiated in the Twelfth Plan Period:

1. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of hydropower projects in the Himalayan region.
2. Climate change impacts on ecosystem services in the Indian Himalayan region.
3. Ecological, social and policy implications of changing water resource scenario in the Indian Himalayan context.
4. Farming systems and changing climate regime: strengthening food and nutritional security in the Himalaya.
5. Understanding biodiversity patterns and processes under changing resource use and climate scenario in Indian Himalaya—ecological and social implications.
6. Promoting conservation and sustainable utilization of Himalayan biodiversity elements using biotechnological approaches.
7. Extremophiles from Himalaya: ecological resilience and biotechnological applications.

Legislations for protection and management of coastal areas titled Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (CRZ) and Island Protection Zone Notification (IPZ) were enacted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2011. Under the CRZ Notification, the Central Government, with a view to ensure livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities, living in coastal areas, to conserve and protect costal stretches, its unique environment and its marine area and to promote development through sustainable management based on scientific principles taking into account the dangers of natural hazards in coastal areas, sea level rise due to global warming, declared the coastal stretches of the Country and the water area upto its territorial water limit excluding the Islands of Andaman and

Nicobar and Lakshwadeep and the marine areas surrounding these Islands upto its territorial limit, as CRZ and restrict the setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances.

Similarly, under the IPZ Notification, the Central Government, with a view of providing livelihood security to the local communities including the fisher folk and tribals, promote conservation and protection of Islands unique environment and its marine area and to promote development through sustainable integrated management plan based on scientific principles taking into account the vulnerability of the coast to natural hazards, hereby declare the coastal stretches of Middle Andaman, North Andaman, South Andaman and Greater Nicobar and entire area of the other Islands of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep and their water area upto territorial water limit as the IPZ and restricts the areas from the setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances as specified in Hazardous Substances Rules, 2009, except in the manner provided in the Island Coastal Regulation Zone (ICRZ) and Integrated Islands Management Plans (IIMP).

Further, all building and construction project are subjected to the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 wherein the State or Union Territory level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) while appraising the building and construction project proposal consider relevant environmental parameters like distance from the river, coastal regulation zone issues, distance from eco-sensitive areas etc.

#### **Illegal construction inside the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary**

1407. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary in Maharashtra has more than 200 windmill, 10 tourist resorts inside the sanctuary precincts;

(b) whether it is a fact that 1200 land deals have been finalised since 1985 and 4,000 hectares of tiger territory have been sold or encroached in the area thereby in contravention with the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972;

(c) the action taken by Government against illegal constructions and encroachments inside the Sanctuary; and