Environmental degradation costs

2043. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank report entitled 'Diagnostic Assessment of Select Environmental Challenges in India' released recently stated that the environmental degradation costs India \$80 billion annually, and if so, the details of the report; and
- (b) the concrete steps that the Ministry is taking to rectify the lacunae pointed out in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The World Bank has submitted the Report titled 'Diagnostic Assessment of Select Environmental Challenges in India' to the Government of India. The report States *inter-alia*, "The report estimates the total cost of environmental degradation in India at about Rs. 3.75 trillion (US\$ 80 billion) annually".

(b) The Report is being examined in the Government.

Forest destroyed due to fire

2044. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that one-third of forest in our country and other countries also like Malaysia and Indonesia are destroyed due to forest fire; and
- (b) how much forest area in India, State-wise is destroyed by forest fire and what are the steps taken by Government to check the forest fire?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) As per the report "Vulnerability of India's Forests to Fires" brought out in the year 2012 by Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, 15.06% of the forest area of the country is vulnerable to forest fire.

(b) Details of annually burnt recorded forest areas due to forest fire State/UT-wise as estimated by FSI Dehradun is given in the Statement (See below).

The Ministry supplements the efforts of the State/UT Governments for forest protection including protection from forest fire by providing assistance under various schemes namely Intensification of Forest Management, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, 13th Finance Commission Award and Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). Under Intensification of Forest Management Scheme, funds are provided for patrolling of the forests, establishment of camps, building fire watch towers, creation and maintenance of fire line, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening forest infrastructure etc. FSI has also established a near real time forest fire monitoring system together with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad where by forest fire alerts are generated on daily basis during the fire season.

Statement

Details of annually burnt recorded forest areas due to forest fire State-wise

(Sq. km.)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Recorded forest area burnt by fire
1.	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5765.52
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1742.85
4.	Assam	890.27
5.	Bihar	149.34
6.	Chandigarh	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	1238.18
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5.77
9.	Daman and Diu	0.00
10.	New Delhi	0.00
11.	Goa	24.22

Written Answers to		Unstarred Questions 11
1.	2	3
12.	Gujarat	331.20
13.	Haryana	81.18
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1599.38
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	984.71
16.	Jharkhand	535.90
17.	Karnataka	2086.66
18.	Kerala	296.49
19.	Lakshadweep	0.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1658.27
21.	Maharashtra	1210.10
22.	Manipur	994.91
23.	Meghalaya	549.16
24.	Mizoram	980.29
25.	Nagaland	521.98
26.	Odisha	2459.92
27.	Puducherry	0.00
28.	Punjab	73.53
29.	Rajasthan	795.00
30.	Sikkim	116.09
31.	Tamil Nadu	1300.27
32.	Tripura	352.06
33.	Uttar Pradesh	570.98
34.	Uttarakhand	1868.26
35.	West Bengal	273.19
S-	Grand Total:	29455.70