

Fine imposed by NGT

793. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Green Tribunal (NGT) has imposed a fine of Rupees One Lakh each on the Ministry and Assam Government for letting industries mushroom illegally around Kaziranga National Park over the last 15 years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Tribunal has ordered the closure of crushers, brick kilns and tea factories alongwith other such industries; and

(c) whether the factories and industries established there would be removed, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Government of Assam and the Ministry of Environment and Forests to deposit Rupees One Lakh each with the Director, Kaziranga National Park for conservation and restoration of flora and fauna as well as biodiversity, eco-sensitive zone, ecology and environment of the vicinity of Kaziranga National Park, while delivering an order on 7th September, 2012 in Application No. 38/2011: Rohit Choudhury *Versus* Union of India and Ors.

(b) and (c) The NGT has ordered the removal of illegal stone crushers, brick kilns, tea factories, etc. from No Development Zone at Kaziranga. Miscellaneous applications of tea factories are before NGT in the matter. The execution of aforesaid order is to be done by Assam State Pollution Control Board and Government of Assam.

Working to replace Kyoto Protocol

794. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India along with other developing nations is working towards forging a treaty by 2015 to replace the Kyoto Protocol, the only global pact limiting fossil fuel emissions;

(b) whether India is pleading to developed nations to pledge an aid of \$100 billion a year commensurate with the levels of their own emissions before asking the poorer nations to set their own targets; and

(c) whether 1997 Kyoto agreement leaves out the developing nations to make voluntary contributions while setting emissions levels for richer nations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) In Durban during the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP 17), held in 2011, the Parties (including India) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) decided to launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties and adopt it at its twenty-first session in 2015. This arrangement will come into effect from 2020.

(b) According to the Cancun Decisions, taken during the sixteenth meeting of Conference of Parties in 2010, developed countries took a collective commitment to provide new and additional resources by mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. Developing Countries including India has maintained that the developed country parties must fulfill their commitments under the Convention.

(c) Yes, Sir. The 1997 Kyoto Protocol recognizes that rich and developed countries are responsible for high levels of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and has put emissions reduction targets of GHGs on these countries, without imposing any mandatory GHG emission reduction targets on developing countries.

Tiger reserves in core areas

795. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism activities have been allowed in core areas of Tiger Reserves across the country after lifting of ban by Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) A set of comprehensive guidelines has been issued under section 38O-1 (c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for tiger conservation and tourism in Tiger Reserves, which allows regulated tourism in core areas of Tiger Reserves. The said guidelines are available in public domain at www.projecttiger.nic.in, which, *inter-alia*, cover ecotourism with a view to benefit local people and wildlife.