

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) There are reports of sporadic unauthorized felling of trees in the country. However, details of illegal felling of trees are not maintained at the Central Government level as protection and management of Forests is primarily the responsibility of State/Union Territory Governments.

(b) As per reports received from the Government of Haryana, no large scale illegal felling of trees has taken place in Mangar Forest, District Faridabad. A case of illegal felling of trees in Mangar Forest involving a total of 243 trees of various girth classes of *Prosopis juliflora* species has been reported. A First Information Report (FIR) has been lodged in the matter with the police. Further, Application No. 269 of 2013 Haryali Welfare Society v/s Union of India and Others has also been filed before the National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, Delhi.

(c) Details of guilty persons against whom action has been taken for illegal felling of trees is not maintained at the level of the Ministry.

#### **Steps taken to keep environment clean**

2348. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that Government takes to keep the environment clean and safe, the details of the programmes of Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the effluence, of the industry in Panmana village of Kollam district of Kerala, has spread cancer and skin diseases, if so, the steps that Government is taking to prevent this problem, the number of people who have been affected there; and

(c) how much compensation will be given to the affected people and the treatment of these people, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) In order to ensure environment clean and safe, the Government of India has formulated and implemented policies, programmes and several legislations such as Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 including rules and regulations made thereunder.

The steps taken to prevent and control pollution in the country *interalia* include:

- Enforcement of emission and effluent standards notified under the aforementioned legislations;
- Implementation of mutually agreed time targeted programme under Corporate Responsibility on Environment Protection (CREP);
- Inspection of 17 categories of highly polluting industries for compliance of environmental standards under environment surveillance programme;
- Setting up of common effluent treatment plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units;
- Promotion of low-waste and no-waste technology;
- Augmentation of flow in rivers for aquatic ecological preservation;
- Implementation of water harvesting practices in various regions of the country;
- Promotion of clean technologies in Pulp and Paper, Sugar & Distilleries etc. with emphasis on reuse and recycle to reduce water consumption by these sectors.

(b) and (c) As per the information provided by Kerala State Pollution Control Board, the Board has (not conducted any such health study in the State on the effluence of any industry.

#### **Proposal for diversion of Zudpi jungle**

2349. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONEMNT AND FORESTS be please to state:

(a) the present status of the proposal for diversion of Zudpi jungle for developing World Class Multi-Model International Hub Airport near existing Nagpur airport which was submitted by Maharashtra State Government for the approval of the Ministry; and

(b) the reasons of delay in granting approval thereof, and by when the final approval will be granted by Government to the above proposal?