

TERI report on pollution

2367. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the report issued by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) lakhs of people die every year owing to polluted air and water too in our country, if so, the details of the said report;

(b) whether Government is going to implement any new plan to check air and water pollution; and

(c) the details of the outcome of the schemes being run in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has published a report titled 'TERI Environment Survey 2013' for Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Kolkata. The report is based on public survey, newspaper reports, etc. The opinion of public based on individual perception is indicative rather than conclusive. The quality of ambient air, surface water and groundwater in above mentioned cities is regularly monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). The report emphasizes on general perception of public.

(b) and (c) The CPCB and SPCBs have taken various steps to contain air and water pollution which, *inter-alia*, include strict implementation of emission and effluent norms in polluting industries, review of emission and effluent standards, supply of improved diesel and gasoline, promotion of mass rapid transport, sale of new vehicles compliant to Bharat Stage III/IV emission norms with effect from 1st April, 2010, Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate system for on-road vehicles, implementation of city-specific ambient air improvement programme for 17 identified cities, monitoring of area specific action plan for 43 critically polluted areas, monitoring of common effluent treatment plants to treat effluent from SSI units, implementation of river specific action plans, monitoring of treated sewage quality arising from sewage treatment plants, etc.

Pollution in rural green area by mobile tower

2368. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mobile Tower fixed by the Multinational Companies are consuming 30 per cent subsidized diesel and responsible for pollution in rural green area; and

(b) whether the Department has framed any rules and criteria for setting of tower for Mobile connection, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendation on 'Approach towards Green Telecommunications' dated 12th April 2011, the average fuel consumption of diesel is 8760 liters per tower every year, assuming 8 hours of operation of a diesel genset installed as a source of backup power with every mobile tower. There are approximately 5.85 lakhs mobile towers in the country. However, as informed by Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India the actual data for consumption of diesel for diesel gensets installed with mobile towers is not available,

(b) The DoT has not framed any rules and criteria for setting of tower for mobile connection. However, DoT has reportedly issued advisory guidelines to State Governments for issuance of clearance for installation of mobile towers in respective States.

Higher foreign allowance to diplomats

2369. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering higher foreign allowance to diplomats, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the presently diplomats were not able to pay domestic assistants wages in accordance with the laws prevailing in the countries of their postings;

(c) whether Government is considering to find a way of making payments to diplomats domestic assistants in compliance with the minimum wage stipulations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) There is no proposal by the Ministry for higher