

- (iv) Running awareness campaigns and sensitization programmes on wildlife and wildlife crime to various stakeholders.
- (v) Joint operations are carried out with navy, coastguard and local enforcement officials to apprehend criminals indulging in poaching and illegal trade of sea-cucumber and sea horse.
- (vi) Sharing at international Forums the Trans-border linkages detected within the country to sensitize the foreign authorities concerned.
- (vii) Issuance of Alerts and Advisories to enforcement agencies on latest *modus operandi*, trade routes, concealment techniques etc.
- (viii) The Ministry through the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has brought out the following publications for the capacity building of the field officers:
 - (a) Handbook for wildlife crime investigation officers on wildlife crime investigation.
 - (b) X-Ray Manual of wildlife products in illegal trade.
 - (c) Identification Manual on Wildlife Species in trade.

Extracting of metals from fly ash

3091. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that fly ash contains metals like lead, zinc, chromium, arsenic, nickel and mercury ;
- (b) if so, why cannot we extract these metals from fly ash; and
- (c) whether any efforts have been made to extract these metals from fly ash, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) Fly ash contains trace metals like lead, zinc, chromium, arsenic, nickel and mercury. Extraction of metals from fly ash is not techno-economically feasible. This Ministry has notified Fly Ash Utilisation Notification, 1999, as amended, to promote more economical and environmental friendly uses of fly ash *viz.* in construction of buildings, roads, manufacture of cement, bricks, blocks, tiles, etc.

Prescribed safe limit of particulate matter

3092. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any systems have been put in place to issue health advisories when particulate matter in cities is higher than the prescribed safe limit; and

- (b) if so, the particulars of such systems, and if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have been notified by the Government of India with 12 pollutants including two parameter concerning particulate matter namely, PM₁₀ (particulate having size less than or equal to 10 micron) and PM_{2.5} (particulate having size less than or equal to 2.5 micron) in November, 2009. The limits/norms for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} have been prescribed while taking into account WHO guidelines, best practices at global level, health criteria, etc.

The Indian Institute of Tropical Metrology provides information on air quality considering five/six pollutants for real time and its forecast for 24 hours through its webpage and electronic display board at select locations in Delhi and Pune.

Chief Ministers views on the recommendations of HLWG

3093. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government had requested all the Chief Ministers of six States in the Western Ghats region seeking their views on the recommendations of High Level Working Group (HLWG) constituted to assess the kind of activities that could be permitted in the Ecologically Sensitive Area of Western Ghats;

- (b) if so, whether those State Governments have submitted their views; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry had written on 16th January, 2014 to the Chief Ministers of all six States in the Western Ghats region seeking their views on the High Level Working Group (HLWG) recommendations, especially on concerns which might not have been addressed in the OM of the Ministry dated 20th December, 2013. The views of the State Government were sought within one month. The Ministry had received comments/views from the State Governments of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa. The State Governments had *inter-alia* raised concerns about the extent of the proposed Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) as identified by HLWG and the proposed regulation/prohibition of certain activities therein. The State Government of Kerala had also conducted demarcation of ESA by physical verification within their jurisdiction post HLWG report.

Later, the Ministry issued a draft notification for declaring Ecologically Sensitive Area under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in the Gazette of India *vide* S.O. No. 733 (E) dated 10th March, 2014 inviting suggestions and objections from stakeholders on the proposals contained in the draft notification. While responding to the draft notification, some of the State Governments in the Western Ghats region conveyed