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|-------|-------------|----------|
| 11. | Valsad | 2672.31 |
| 12. | Panchmahal | 8780.71 |
| 13. | Gandhinagar | 4.39 |
| TOTAL | | 31840.92 |

* In addition to above, State Government conferred occupancy rights *vide* Government notification dated 06/02/1970 over 58,328 hectare of land being cultivated by the local people of the Dang in the protected forests.

Canine Distemper disease among tigers and other animals

3865. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the likely outbreak of Canine Distemper (CD) disease among tigers and other animals belonging to feline group across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such cases reported so far during the last two years; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to prevent spread of CD disease among tigers in all the tiger reserves of the country including entry of stray dogs in and around tiger reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. So far, only a single case of tiger mortality due to Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) has been confirmed from the Pilibhit area of Uttar Pradesh in November, 2013. Based on discussion with experts and field officers, and advice from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), and the Wildlife Institute of India, the tiger States have been advised by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for monitoring and taking precautionary measures against spread of Canine Distemper Virus. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, central assistance is provided to tiger States, which, *inter-alia*, includes funding support for prophylactic immunization against diseases communicable to the wildlife.

Use of fly ash in forests

3866. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that fly ash mixed with urban sludge is used in forests in the People's Republic of China and if so, whether Government has any information regarding about benefits and hazardous of such use; and

- (b) the reasons for not following the Chinese example in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) As per the information revived from Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, mixture of fly ash and urban sludge is seen as a potential medium to improve degraded soils, including the forest soils as source of nutrients. Diverse literature from different countries is available on the subject. As per the information received from Center for Fly Ash Research and Management, New Delhi, the works reported by China are generally experimental works in small patches of land. Trials are also underway in India to study the effects of fly ash and mixture of fly ash and urban sludge on soil properties by organisation like the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Indian-Canada Environment Facility (ICEF), and the Indian Institute of Technology, Centre for Fly Ash Research and Management (C-FARM), New Delhi.

Death of peacock in Raswan, U.P.

3867. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention is drawn to news-item "U.P. peacock deaths create fear of unknown" publishing in media on 21-7-2014 in Raswan, about 50 kms. from Mathura, Kosi Kalan and Dehgaon, U.P., if so, the response of Government;
- (b) whether reasons were analysed for deaths of so many peacocks and report called for from the authorities, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the preventive steps that are suggested for saving peacock in the region; and
- (d) whether any environment impact assessment study is made, keeping the above in mind, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has noticed the publication of news item "Uttar Pradesh peacock deaths create fear of unknown" published in the Asian Age and 21st July, 2014.

(b) and (c) The deaths have been reported to have been caused due to heat wave leading to viral infections in the birds. The deaths of wild animals particularly peacocks due to heat wave are among various natural causes of deaths.

Protection and conservation of wild animals and birds is a subject matter dealt with by the State/Union territory Governments. Whenever, any offence in respect of animals