

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under its Environment Surveillance Squad Programme also inspected 28 industries under the 17 categories of highly polluting industries during the last 3 years including cement industries. Out of 9 cement industries, 2 industries have been found non-complying. Accordingly, Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been issued to defaulting cement industries for upgradation of air pollution control devices.

(d) The CPCB has not carried out any study to save the land turning barren due to emission of pollutants from the factories. However, industries are required to take consent from concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) under the Air Act and adhere to the prescribed emission standards, failing which appropriate action is taken as per the law.

Illegal purchase of land of forest department of Uttarakhand

925. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large tract of land belonging to Vir Girwali range of forest department in Mussoorie, Dehradun has been illegally purchased/occupied;

(b) whether the plantation on the said land were illegally felled for clearing the land by the purchaser; if so, the details of the cases;

(c) whether any action has been initiated by the concerned forest Department on persons carrying such illegal activities; if not, the reasons for not taking any action; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to free the forest land from such unscrupulous elements and take punitive action against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, as per the reports received from Uttarakhand Forest Department, there has been allegedly illegal purchase of reserve forest land in Bir Girwali area of Rajpur Range, Dehradun (near old Mussoorie road) through sale deed dated 21.11.2012. A total of 25 Sal trees were illegally cut from the reserve forest on 9th March, 2013 and 18th March 2013. The matter is *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand, Nainital and Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi.

(c) and (d) The Uttarakhand Forest and Police Departments conducted independent enquiries into the matter and submitted reports to the Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand. Criminal complaints were filed in the Hon'ble Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Dehradun. Uttarakhand Government and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have also filed affidavits in the NGT in this regard.

Survey for the effects of rising industrialization

†926. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been conducted for assessing the effects of rising industrialization on the quality of air by Government;

(b) whether any effective policy in this regard is under the consideration of Government; 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) The trend in ambient air quality indicates cause-effect relationship between air pollution and sources of pollution including rising industrialization. Ambient air quality is regularly monitored at 573 locations in 240 cities, towns and industrial areas in 27 States and 5 UTs under National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in terms of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and PM₁₀ (particulate matter having size equal to or less than 10 micron) across the country. NAMP is coordinated by CPCB and the data so collected is collated, compiled, processed and published on annual basis.

(b) and (c) The National Environment Policy (NEP)-2006 is in place as a guiding document which builds on earlier policies. The Government has taken various measure to curb pollution in the country which *inter-alia* include, supply of cleaner fuels as per auto fuel policy, use of gaseous fuel for public transport, pollution under control (PUC) certificate for in use vehicles, stringent source specific emission standards and strict compliance therein, use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants, implementation of revised emission norms for gensets, implementation of city specific action plan in 16 cities, etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.