498/2014 is pending before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, Delhi. The matter is still *subjudice*. The Hon'ble Tribunal may adjudicate upon the question of jurisdiction in due course.

(b) Regarding the application of section 14 of the National Green Tribunal Act, the said section states that:

> "The Tribunal shall have the jurisdiction over all civil cases where a substantial question relating to environment (including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment), is involved and such question arises out of the implementation of the enactments specified in Schedule I"

The above-said Schedule I includes the following Acts:

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
2. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution} Cess Act, 1977
3. The Forest Conservation Act, 1980
4. Air Prevention and Control of Pollution Act, 1981
5. The Environment Protection Act, 1986
6. The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
7. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Further, the action plan on climate change and such question (of climate change) does not arise out of implementation of the enactments listed in Schedule-I. There is no legally binding commitment for India under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

(c) The purpose of the National Green Tribunal is stated under the National Green Tribunal Act. Apart from various statutory provisions, the statement of objects and reasons of the Act may also be referred to. The Hon'ble Tribunal has already passed significant judgments on a plethora of issues ranging from water pollution to noise pollution etc. The Tribunal is also presently hearing matters of high public importance and impact such as air pollution in Delhi — NCR, the Ganga (pollution) matters, pollution from mobile towers, pollution around railway tracks etc.

Ban on ten years old diesel vehicles

784. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Green Tribunal (NGT) has banned all ten years old diesel vehicles from playing in Delhi and NCR to curb pollution;

(b) if so, the reasons for oat contesting the order of the NGT in higher courts as such orders only lead to price rise of vegetables and essential commodities besides generating unemployment; and

(c) whether banning the old vehicles will solve the problem of pollution as most of the pollutions is emanated through mining around Delhi, burning of agriculture waste in Punjab, operation of diesel Mobile Towers in Delhi and large scale construction activity in the NCR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) *vide* its order dated April 7, 2015 in the matter of "Shri Vardhaman Kaushik *Vs.* Union of India" has directed for banning 10 year old vehicles in Delhi/National Capital Region. The direction of the Hon'ble NGT are to be implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways being a nodal agency for such matters and other concern State agencies.

(c) The phenomenon of Air Pollution at a given place is a concoction of air pollutants emitted from various sources. In the absence of source apportionment study of a given area, one cannot attribute to the actual source of pollution in that particular area. Studies carried out by different institutes / organizations nationally as well as internationally have confirmed that vehicular sector is one of the major source of air pollution, especially in the urban areas. Any air Quality Management Plan to be developed for improving the air quality of a given area includes components on restricting emissions from all the major sources including diesel vehicles, burning of agricultural waste etc. In view of alarming rise in the vehicular Population especially in the segment of private vehicles, there is need for policies that regulate the use of personal vehicles including diesel driven vehicles.

Policy paper regarding adoption of traditional methods

†785. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister recently urged to adopt traditional methods to resolve the environment related problems while addressing the conference of State Environment Ministers, if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.