

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) There is no report of sickness among animals in various zoos of the country at alarming levels. Moreover, details on sickness among animals in individual zoos of the country are not collated in the Central Zoo Authority. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(c) The Central Zoo Authority has stipulated standards/norms under Recognition of Zoo (Amendment) Rules, 2013 with reference to protection of zoo animals which include timely supply of quality food and water, regular screening for parasitic loads, upkeep and healthcare, screening against zoonotic diseases by the veterinary officer of the zoo. Further, the Central Zoo Authority has designated the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Bareilly as National Referral Centre for disease diagnosis and care of wild animals.

With the grants provided by the Central Zoo Authority, the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly has prepared a manual titled "Standards, Guidelines ' and Protocol of Disease Diagnosis and Cure of Wild Animals in Indian Zoos". This manual has been provided to zoos in the country and it has been uploaded on the website of the Central Zoo Authority for ready reference by the zoo management personnel all over the country. The Central Zoo Authority has also circulated a guideline on 18.11.2014 to Chief Wild Life Wardens of all the States/UTs and Directors/ Curators/ Zoo In-Charge of all zoos in the country on suggested health monitoring protocols for zoos. It has also been uploaded on the website of the Central Zoo Authority.

Land reclamation of closed or abandoned mines

826. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government to restore the quality of land in areas where mines have been closed or abandoned;

(b) whether there is any mechanism for monitoring and oversight of land reclamation activities by lessee companies after mining activity is concluded; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) Use of land for mining requires Environmental Clearance in accordance with the provisions of the EIA

Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time. In case a mining project involves forest land, it also requires prior approval of Central Government in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Central Government while according Environmental Clearance and prior approval under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for a mining project stipulates condition that the project proponent shall undertake mining in a phased manner and shall undertake concurrent as well as final reclamation of the mined over area as per the approved mining plan. Central Government while according these approvals also stipulates a condition that the project proponent shall submit annual report on status of implementation of conditions stipulated therein, including those relating to reclamation of mined out areas to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Status of reclamation of mined out areas is regularly monitored by ten Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change located at Shillong, Bhubaneswar, Ranchi, Lucknow, Dehradun, Chandigarh, Bhopal, Nagpur, Bangalore and Chennai.

Illegal trafficking of wild animals

827. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has any mechanism to stop the illegal trafficking of wild animals from the country to other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of wildlife trafficking cases reported in the country during the last three years; and
- (d) the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau coordinates and assists the border enforcement agencies in monitoring export/import of wildlife and its parts and products. In addition, India is a Party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) which is a global mechanism for monitoring international trade in wildlife. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is the enforcement agency for CITES. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 prescribes stringent penalties for hunting/poaching and