

(*Manis pentadactyla*). Since it is an extremely elusive and nocturnal species, no systematic surveys have been conducted on their population status and numbers so far and therefore their year-wise numbers in the country since 2008 are not available.

(b) Yes, the Government is aware of the fact that pangolin is one of the highly hunted/ traded (illegally) species in the world.

(c) The Government of India has listed both the species of Pangolin in Schedule - I of Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, which strictly prohibits hunting and trade of this species. State Forest Departments take appropriate action for prosecution of the offenders in the related cases.

(d) The Ministry has identified 17 species for 'Species specific recovery programme'. These species include Asiatic Lion, Snow Leopard, Dugongs, Malabar Civet, Dolphins, Hangul, Manipur Brow Antler Deer, Nilgiri Thar, Swamp deer, Edible nest Swiftlets, Asian Wild Buffalo, Nicobar Megapode, Marine Turtles, Great Indian Bustards, Vultures, Indian Rhinoceros, and Jerdon's Courser.

Revival of Hussain Sagar lake

37. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is drawn towards the reports that the Hussain Sagar lake in Hyderabad is highly polluted and that even the desilted earth would be a health hazard; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government would work with Telangana Government closely to revive Hussain Sagar as a freshwater lake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The water quality of Hussain Sagar lake in Hyderabad is monitored by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB). The assessment of water quality data of Hussain Sagar lake indicates high level of organic pollution due to entry of effluents from four nallahs, including Kukutpally nallah.

The TSPCB has reported that the silt of Hussain Sagar in most parts of the lake is non-hazardous in nature. The Hyderabad Metro Development Authority (HMDA) has dredged silt/sludge from 3 nallahs, other than Kukutpally nallah, and the dried silt/sludge was transported to the dumping site. A small stretch near Kukutpally nallah contains Cadmium, a heavy metal. HMDA has undertaken the task of dredging this

stretch and safe disposal of the dredged silt at the TSDF (Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility) site.

(b) The TSPCB has informed that the Telangana Government has already taken-up Hussain Sagar lake and catchment area improvement project.

Carcasses of Olive Ridley turtles

38. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether carcasses of thousands of Olive Ridley turtles off Gahirmatha marine sanctuary in Odisha were reported recently and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the reasons for massive deaths were analysed, including operation of illegal trawl fishing activities;

(c) whether similar incidents of deaths of shark and dolphin were also reported in the Coast of Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of action taken to conserve the marine habitation and to curb the illegal fishing trawls in the coastal zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the States and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Compensatory afforestation

39. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the area in hectares where compensatory afforestation has been undertaken by Government in the country during each of the last three years due to construction of Highways, State-wise;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken into consideration that artificial afforestation through plantations may not be a sustainable one and cannot be compared to the degraded or lost natural forest land; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?