

(c) how Government would ensure that the full extent of conditionalities of environmental clearances are implemented; and

(d) whether a conference of affected people would be given a hearing by Government to ensure full compliance of environmental clearances given for Polavaram dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) to (c) Idhira Sagar (Polavaram) Multipurpose Project in Andhra Pradesh was accorded environmental Clearance (EC) on 25.10.2005 as per the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 1994 subject to strict compliance of terms and conditions. The Forest Clearance (FC) was accorded on 28.7.2010 in accordance with Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with conditions. As per the condition stipulated in the EC, the responsibility of implementation of environmental safeguards rests fully with the project proponent which is Irrigation Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh and as per the condition stipulated in the FC, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has to implement the conditions. The settlement rights and compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is primarily the responsibility of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The implementation of EC conditions are monitored through the Regional Offices of the Ministry.

(d) As per Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 the public consultation is mandatory requirement for River valley and Hydroelectric Power Projects by which the concerns of local affected persons and others who have plausible stake in the environment impacts of the projects or activity is taken on board. The Government of Andhra Pradesh, under the technical guidance of the Central Water Commission, shall ensure that no submergence and displacement of people including Scheduled Tribes (STs) takes place in the territories of States of Odisha and Chhattisgarh and the population of these two States including STs does not get adversely affected in any manner either by changes in drainage regime or by any kind of primary/secondary displacements.

Revised guidelines for Declaration of Critical Wildlife Habitat

2916. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to issue revised guidelines for declaration of Critical Wildlife Habitat in the Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had proposed framing of Rules for declaration of Critical Wildlife Habitats in accordance with provisions of Section 2(b) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The Ministry of Law and Justice has indicated that there is no clear provision under the said Act wherein the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change can frame Rules and that the Ministry may issue notification instead of framing rules. No final decision has been taken in this regard.

Protection of children from air pollution

2917. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is taking any action to protect children from air pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of schools being shut, due to excessive pollution during the last three years; and
- (d) the details of steps taken for controlling the air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) to (d) Government has taken action to control air pollution including children being exposed to air pollution. Government of NCT of Delhi had ordered closure of schools run by New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) from 7th to 9th November, 2016 as an emergency step to prevent children being exposed to air pollution. The major actions taken by Government to curb air pollution in the country *inter alia* include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; formulation of environmental regulations/statutes; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending; promotion of cleaner production processes; launching of National Air Quality Index; universalization of BS-IV by 2017; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020; comprehensive amendments to various Waste Management Rules and notification of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules; banning of burning of leaves, biomass, municipal solid waste; promotion of public transport and network of metro, e-rickshaws, promotion of car pooling, Pollution Under Control Certificate, lane discipline, vehicle maintenance; regular co-ordination meetings at official and Ministerial level with Delhi and other State Governments