

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) There is no elephant reserve project in the State of Chhattisgarh. One elephant reserve consisting of three sanctuaries was notified in the year 2011 which also includes Badalkhol Sanctuary of Jashpur district. An amount of ₹ 3.00 Lakh has been released to Badalkhol Sanctuary for the year 2017-2018.

(b) The major works undertaken include human elephant conflict mitigation measures, which have yielded good results.

(c) Number of people died due to elephant's attacks in Chhattisgarh is given below.

Year	Number of persons died
2014-15	32
2015-16	53
2016-17	74
2017-18 (upto October 2017)	42

#### **Reducing pollution in capital city**

206. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capital city of the country remains one of the most polluted city in the country and the world, despite making all efforts to bring the pollution level under control;

(b) the reason for Government machinery to fail so miserably in controlling the pollution level despite the intervention of the Hon'ble Supreme Court; and

(c) whether the Ministry would consider promoting the use of bicycles by the masses in order to bring down the pollution level and also to promote health benefits on using bicycles for commuting for at least short distances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The ambient air quality is monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 303 cities/towns, in 29 States and 6 Union Territories. As per the data, the number of cities where monitored

values exceed National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) during 2016 is 21 for NO<sup>2</sup>, 195 for PM<sup>10</sup> and 31 for PM<sup>2.5</sup>. Delhi is one of the cities where monitored values show significant exceedance with respect to PM<sup>10</sup>, PM<sup>2.5</sup> and NO<sup>2</sup>.

(b) Control of pollution is an ongoing process and results are achieved over a period of time. In general, there has been improvement in air quality in Delhi in 2017, in comparison to 2016. The number of good, moderate, and satisfactory days as per Air Quality Index (AQI) in 2017 were 151 compared to 109 days in 2016. The number of poor, very poor and severe days have shown a decline as compared to the last year *i.e.* 181 in 2017 against 214 in 2016.

(c) As part of the promotion of environment-friendly activities, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has compiled a list of 'Good Deeds' which includes use of bicycles.

#### **Funds for bridge over Mathred river**

207. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation regarding sanctioning of sufficient funds for provision of wall, both side jali and support pillar of the bridge, constructed over Mathred river to link village Nandla and other villages in Chirgaon Tehsil in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Central Government would ask State Government of Himachal Pradesh to take up this project on priority basis for the safety of people and long life of the bridge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when modification work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has informed that a representation of Shri Roshan Lal regarding construction of bridge over Mathred river to link Nandla and other villages and construction of link road from Jangla to Nandla village in Chirgaon Tehsil in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh was received in February, 2016. Since the project comes within the purview of the State Government, the proposal was forwarded by the Ministry of Rural Development to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.