

Administrations dated 24th December, 2014 and 1st June, 2015. Further, the Ministry has approved a pilot project on the immuno-contraception for controlling the population of wild animals responsible for damage and destruction of crops, namely; elephant, wild boar, monkey, and nilgai.

- (c) Does not arise.

Comprehensive plan to conserve Western Ghats

213. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any concrete and comprehensive plan to conserve the Western Ghats, which is a vibrant ecosystem south of the Vindhyas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) This Ministry had set up the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) under the Chairmanship of Prof. Madhav Gadgil for recommending measures for the conservation and environmental integrity of the Western Ghats to promote sustainable development of the region. Considering large scale objections to the report submitted by WGEEP, a High Level Working Group (HLWG) under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan was constituted by this Ministry to examine the WGEEP Report in a holistic manner and recommend measures for the protection of the Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of Western Ghats. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had in principle accepted the Report submitted by HLWG.

Based on the recommendation of HLWG, to provide immediate protection to the ESA of the Western Ghats, the Government issued Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 13.11.2013. As per the Directions, the five categories of new and/or expansion projects/activities having maximum interventionist impact on ecosystems namely (i) Mining, quarrying and sand mining (ii) Thermal Power Plants (iii) Building and construction projects of 20,000 square meters area and above (iv) Township and area development projects with an area of 50 hectares and above and /or with built up area of 1,50,000 square meters and above and (v) Red category of industries are prohibited in the ESA of Western Ghats.

Further, this Ministry had issued a draft Notification on 10.03.2014 declaring an

area of 56,825 square kilometres spread over the six states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat in the Western Ghats region as Ecologically Sensitive, which was followed by subsequent Draft Notifications dated 04.09.2015 and 27.02.2017 for seeking stakeholders comments, including those of State Governments.

Financial support from World Bank or FFIs on environment projects

214. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any financial support from World Bank or FFIs for State Governments to maintain a pollution free environment and to develop sewerage and solid waste management projects;
- (b) if so, the details of financial assistance provided to States including Tamil Nadu during the last three years and current year, State-wise and project-wise;
- (c) whether the project 'Capacity Building for Industrial Pollution Management Project' was signed with World Bank for International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Credit for several million dollars; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether any such project has been finalised for Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has received financial support for the following projects:

- (i) Capacity Building for Industrial Pollution Management Project (CBIPMP) to control pollution and for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Programme funded by World Bank.
- (ii) Pollution abatement of Rivers Mula-Mutha in Pune, Maharashtra under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
- (iii) Financial support from German International Cooperation (GIZ) for following projects: