

- iv. Tenure of Expert Groups is till 31/03/2021 which may further be extended, if required.

(A. Sudhakar)
Member Secretary

Copy to:

- (1) PS to CCB: For kind information to CCB, please.
- (2) Head F&A
- (3) All Members of the Expert Groups
- (4) Divisional Heads - AQM, UPC -I, WQM -I, WM- II, WM - III, PCP

Sd/-

(A. Sudhakar)

Poaching in Valmiki Nagar Tiger Sanctuary

†968. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of large scale illegal cutting of trees and poaching of wild animals in Valmiki Nagar Tiger Sanctuary,
- (b) details of such incidents in the last one year and the number of people arrested in such cases; and
- (c) whether Government plans to make stringent rules to stop illegal cutting of trees and poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) As reported by the State, there are only sporadic incidents of felling of trees and poaching of wild animals.

(b) During the last year, 122 incidents of illicit felling and 4 cases of poaching have been recorded by the State, wherein 69 offenders have been arrested.

(c) Provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and Indian Forest Act, 1927 as amended from time to time are enforced to prevent such crimes.

Air pollution in Delhi

969. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.