

grant for rehabilitation of villages in protected areas under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds.

- (b) Does not arise.

Shelf life of bottled water

†2425. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study on the effect of plastic bottles for bottled water on environment, human health and diseases borne by them and if so, the details thereof; and

- (b) shelf life of bottled water with respect to Indian climate, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Some laboratory tests showed that samples of bottled water had evidence for contamination with bacteria. Further, there is growing concern regarding plastics being entering the food chain as microscopic particles absorbed by fish and other sea creatures. Other foods can be contaminated during production and processing or from plastic packaging, and the study showed that bottled water could also be a significant source of micro plastic' consumption. However, since there are only limited studies and evidence available on the subject, the negative impacts of micro plastics are not fully understood. In India, there is no mention of shelf life on the bottled water, however, a Best Before date usually 6 months in case of bottled water is printed

Pollution of surface and ground water

2426. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of increase in surface water and ground water, category-wise, during the last three years;

- (b) the measures Government is taking to reduce pollution of water bodies; and

(c) the measures Government is taking to reduce the pollution especially from industrial discharge and dumping of solid waste?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.