

into canopy fires, where even trees were affected. Thus, Lantana is playing a havoc in destroying the forest land as it has successfully invaded most parts of the country. Another problem with Lantana is that it kills native species of plants on which herbivores thrive. These herbivores do not consume Lantana because of certain chemical properties in it, which has led to man-animal conflict. Therefore, Lantana has potentially altered biodiversity, landscape ecosystem and ecosystem services. Despite the fact that the matter is very serious, there is a ray of hope in managing the menace of Lantana. In my state of Rajasthan, in the forests of Mount Abu, some small but successful initiatives have been taken by forest department and individuals which establishes that there are solutions available to manage Lantana. Before the problem becomes grave and uncontrollable, I would urge the Government to form a task force to find effective ways including conducting serious research to manage Lantana.

**Demand to take measures to check problems due to mining  
activities in the Bailadila hills**

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, the Centre and State Governments continuing expansion of mining sites in Fifth Schedule areas is riddled with issues that trample the rights of local populations as protected by the Constitution. The Governments' track record in rehabilitation, compensation and conservation borne out of mining related activities in Chhattisgarh is abysmal. The recent expansion of mining in Bailadila hills, Chhattisgarh, is serving interests of large corporations at the expense of the lives and livelihoods of local people. The damage to the environment in these areas is unimaginable with rivers turning red due to the pollution and over 35,000 hectares of agricultural and forest land having been damaged.

I demand that the Government, prior to the commencement of mining activities in the Bailadila hills, should ensure that it fulfills all rehabilitation, compensation and conservation mandates as imposed on it by law and provide a report to this House demonstrating compliance about the same. Thank you.

**Demand for inclusion of "Pali/Prakrit" in the UPSC exam 2020**

श्री अमर शंकर साबले (महाराष्ट्र): सभापति महोदय, मैं केंद्र सरकार का ध्यान पाली भाषा की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। पाली प्राकृत एक मूल भारतीय भाषा है। यह दो हजार