

- (c) whether it has produced any positive impact; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Under the ongoing Environmental Information System (ENVIS) Scheme of the Ministry, the Community driven Environmentally Sustainable Village Programme (CESVP) was taken up during 2017-18, on pilot basis. As part of the pilot, Delhi based 7 ENVIS Resource Partners (RPs) hosted by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF), International Institute of Health and Hygiene (NHHSulabh), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Centre for Media Studies (CMS), School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) and The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) carried out coordinated activities from October, 2017 till March 2018 aimed at creation of awareness about major environmental issues covering pollution, waste management, water management, setting up of community driven projects, such as solar energy, health status, etc. in three villages, viz., Dhirpur, Ghoga and Singhola in Delhi. Further, a preliminary survey was undertaken by these RPs in April, 2018 in three villages - Neemka (Gautam Budh Nagar, UP), Oledha (Bulandshehar, UP) and Kachaida (Gautam Budh Nagar, UP).

(c) and (d) The activities carried out in the three villages of Delhi on pilot basis had a positive impact on the population covered as they became more aware about the adoption of environmentally sustainable practices. The inhabitants of these villages started segregating the waste, using clean energy for cooking, vermi composting of house hold waste etc. and adopted good sustainable practices contributing towards environment protection.

Encroachment of forest land

1471. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state?

- (a) whether Government is aware that State Governments have been directed to summarily evict encroachers of forest land, if so, details thereof;
- (b) quantum of forest land under encroachment;
- (c) details of families evicted during the last three years, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (d) whether Government has received representations to relax rules, as there is a human aspect to the problem and it is claimed that the land in question has been used for farming and the forest economy by indigenous communities for generations;

(e) whether Government is taking any steps to safeguard the livelihood of these communities;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in their recent judgment dated 13.02.2019 in Writ Petition No. 109/2008 in the matter of Wildlife First and Others versus Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Others, directed the State/UT Governments to evict the persons/parties whose claims under Forest Rights Act, 2006 have been rejected.

As per the above order dated 13.02.2019, a Total number of 11, 91, 327 claims were rejected.

Subsequently, Government of India filed an application on 26.02.2019 for modification of the above order. Considering the prayer in the application, Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 28.02.2019 stayed its earlier order dated 13.02.2019 regarding eviction.

(d) No such representation has been received in the Ministry.

(e) to (g) Government has taken various initiatives for safeguarding livelihood of these communities. Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as on 31.03.2019 a Total of 19, 64, 048 titles have been issued to these communities. Declarations of Minimum Support Prices of forest produce, relaxation of bamboo grown from felling and transit regime etc. are also steps in this direction.

Forest fire in Nilgiri hills

1472. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Indian forests are vulnerable to fire accidents and number of incidents of forest fire reported during last three years;

(b) whether Government will take steps to control fires in forests using advanced technology;