

**COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2022-2023)**

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

SEVENTY-EIGHTH REPORT

**REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 22/12/2022



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December 2022/Agrahayana 1944 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES***
(2022 - 2023)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

- Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
4. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
5. Shri Kaushlendra Kumar
6. Shri Khagen Murmu
7. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
8. Shri Santosh Pandey
9. Shri M.K. Raghavan
10. Prof. Sougata Ray
11. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
12. Shri Indra Hang Subba
13. Smt. Supriya Sadanand Sule
14. Vacant
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Director |
| 3. Shri M.C. Gupta | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Shrimati Vineeta Sachdeva | - | Under Secretary |

* The Committee have been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2022 *vide* Para No. 5363 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 09 November, 2022

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Seventy-Eighth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) at their sitting held on 06th June, 2022 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding pending Assurances.
3. At their sitting held on 20 December 2022, the Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023) considered and adopted this Report.
4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of the Report.
5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
20 December, 2022
29 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises and undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfilment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department is unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department is bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Extracts from the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfilment, dropping/deletion and extension, the procedure for fulfilment, etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-I.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-2010) took a policy decision to call the representatives of various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

4. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-2015) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through it.

5. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) called the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to render clarifications with regard to delay in implementation of the pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at their sitting held on 06th June, 2022. The Committee examined in detail the following 21 Assurances (Appendices – II to XXII):

Table 1

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 1175 dated 08.08.2011	River Zone Control Act (Appendix-II)
2.	USQ No. 7245 dated 21.05.2012	River Regulation Area (Appendix-III)
3.	USQ No. 3688 dated 17.12.2012	River Regulatory Zone (Appendix-IV)
4.	USQ No. 415 dated 01.12.2015	Regulation of Hunting (Appendix-V)
5.	SQ No. 224 dated 15.12.2015 (Supplementary by Dr. Manoj Rajoria, M.P.)	Coastal Management (Appendix-VI)
6.	USQ No. 1587 dated 25.07.2017	Implementation of Forest Policy (Appendix-VII)
7.	USQ No. 847 dated 14.12.2018	Eco-Sensitive Areas of Western Ghats (Appendix-VIII)
8.	USQ No. 1051 dated 08.02.2019	Eco Sensitive Areas (Appendix-IX)
9.	USQ No. 1122 dated 08.02.2019	Conservation of Western Ghats (Appendix-X)
10.	USQ No. 80 dated 21.06.2019	Forest based Projects (Appendix-XI)
11.	SQ No. 296 dated 12.07.2019	Amendment in Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (Appendix-XII)
12.	USQ No. 4538 dated 19.07.2019	Amendment in EIA Notification (Appendix-XIII)
13.	SQ No. 82 dated 22.11.2019 (Supplementary by Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, M.P.)	Recycling of Plastics (Appendix-XIV)

14.	USQ No. 1042 dated 22.11.2019	Great Indian Bustard (Appendix-XV)
15.	USQ No. 2060 dated 29.11.2019	Protection and Conservation of Wildlife (Appendix-XVI)
16.	SQ No. 268 dated 06.12.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Anil Firojiya, M.P.)	Conservation of Environment (Appendix-XVII)
17.	USQ No. 3084 dated 06.12.2019	Poaching of Animals and Birds (Appendix-XVIII)
18.	USQ No. 1109 dated 07.02.2020	Ban on Methyl Isocyanate (Appendix-XIX)
19.	USQ No. 2660 dated 06.03.2020	Soil Erosion at River Banks (Appendix-XX)
20.	USQ No. 3222 dated 13.03.2020	Planting of Trees (Appendix-XXI)
21.	SQ No. 381 dated 20.03.2020	Environmental Clearance for Irrigation Projects (Appendix-XXII)

6. During the oral evidence, the Committee emphasized that the Ministries/Departments are required to implement an Assurance within a period of three months and if the Ministries / Departments are unable to fulfil the Assurance within that time period, then it is imperative for them to seek extension of time. The Committee also observed that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had a pendency of 49 Assurances out of which 03 Assurances pertained to the 15th Lok Sabha, 06 Assurances to the 16th Lok Sabha and 40 Assurances to the 17th Lok Sabha. As the Assurances belonging to the 15th Lok Sabha and 16th Lok Sabha were very old and pending for more than 11 years to more than 03 years and there were inordinate delay in fulfilment of these Assurances, the Committee enquired about the system of monitoring and periodical review of the pending Assurances in the Ministry to minimize delay in their fulfilment and the mechanism available for implementation of Parliamentary Assurances. In reply, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change briefed the Committee as under:

"The Assurances given by the Honorable Minister in the House are in a way Assurances from the Government and their information will be made available in time. From this point of view it is very important that the Assurances should be

fulfilled within time. Whatever the situation or the matter may be, whether it is in relation to a particular project, it should be placed before the Committee as soon as possible. We try to make it a priority. For this purpose, the concerned divisional heads in the Ministry follow Assurances continuously. Through the meeting of senior officers, arrangements are made for their simulation so that the information that we have to give has been made available after taking approval from the Honorable Minister or if we are asking for more time, this arrangement should also be done within the time limit."

7. The Committee specifically desired to know about the frequency of meetings held for review of pending Assurances to which the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change stated that there is no fixed time frame for the same and that they are trying to conduct regular reviews since last one or two months.

8. Subsequently, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laid Implementation Reports in respect of 12 Assurances mentioned at Sl.No.1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 21 on 27.07.2022 and 02 Assurances mentioned at Sl. No. 10 and 18 on 08.08.2022 on the floor of the House.

Observations/Recommendations

9. The Committee note that as many as 49 Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change concerning various important matters were pending for implementation. The Committee further note that out of 21 Assurances taken up by them during the oral evidence, 12 Assurances mentioned at Sl.No.1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 21 were implemented on 27.07.2022 and 02 Assurances mentioned at Sl. No. 10 and 18 were implemented on 08.08.2022 after delays ranging from more than 11 years in respect of first 12 Assurances to more than 03 years in respect of other 2 Assurances. 7 Assurances at Sl. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 17 could still not be Fulfilled. Such inordinate delay in fulfilment of the Assurances is an indicative of the fact that monitoring and follow up action taken for implementation of the Assurances by the Ministry has not been adequate and needs further improvement. The Committee are fully aware that implementation of some of the Assurances especially those pertaining to policy matters, contentious issues and Assurances which involve other Ministries/Departments/agencies, State Government etc. may be difficult to be executed within the prescribed time period and need more time. However, sustained efforts need to be made by the Ministry for implementation of these Assurances as these are solemn Parliamentary obligations. The Committee feel that time bound fulfillment of Assurances restores common man's faith in governance and the utility and relevance of Assurances are lost if there is inordinate delay in their fulfilment. The Committee feel that the present mechanism of review of Assurances by the Ministry needs further streamlining with mandatory result oriented regular reviews so as to avoid undue delays in fulfilment of Assurances, particularly those Assurances pending for a long time. The Committee, therefore, urge the

Ministry to adopt a proactive approach and scale up the level of coordination with all the stakeholders involved in the process such as other Ministries/Departments, agencies, State Governments concerned including the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for expeditious implementation of the Assurances. The Committee desire that all the pending Assurances be subjected to close scrutiny and outcome thereof furnished to the Committee for their consideration. The Committee further desire that the Minutes of the review meetings held in the Ministry for review and monitoring of pending Assurances be invariably furnished to them as this will help the Committee in understanding the issues in right perspective and assessing the progress of the Ministry in implementation of the Assurances. The Committee would also like the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to follow the instructions contained in the Manual on Practice and Procedure issued by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in letter and spirit for expeditious implementation of pending Assurances.

II. Review of the Pending Assurances of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

10. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with some of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change which have been critically examined / reviewed by them at their sitting held on 06.06.2022.

A. Implementation of Forest Policy

USQ No. 1587 dated 25.07.2017 regarding 'Implementation of Forest Policy' (Sl. No. 06).

11. In reply to USQ No. 1587 dated 25.07.2017, it was stated that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was not aware of any report regarding implementation of Forest Policy. However, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) was asked to prepare a draft National Forest Policy document. IIFM has submitted the draft policy document. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not finalized the new National Forest Policy.

12. In its Status Note furnished in June, 2022, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change apprised the position regarding implementation of the Assurance as under:-

"A Cabinet Note on National Forest Policy 2020 was submitted by the Ministry to the Cabinet Secretariat on 21.05.2020 for approval. The Note was prepared after public consultation and inter-ministerial consultation. Cabinet Secretariat returned the Cabinet Note on 23.09.2021 requesting the Ministry to submit an updated/revised Note. Accordingly, a revised Cabinet Note on National Forest Policy, 2022 is under preparation"

13. Giving an update on the implementation of the Assurance during oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change submitted as under:-

"This Assurance is about Forest Policy. A Cabinet Note was prepared in the year 2020. As It could not get approved for some reason, efforts are being made to prepare it again. It is requested that in today's date a Forest Policy already exists. Apart from that there is also the Indian Forest Act. The Wildlife Protection Act is under consideration for amendment in the Parliament. There is also the Forest Rights Act. Action on all the subjects of forest and wildlife is being taken under one or the other Policy."

14. The Committee observed that the Ministry had earlier requested for dropping the Assurance. However, the request of the Ministry was not acceded to by the Committee. The Committee enquired as to what difference has come in the position of the Assurance since the time the request of the Ministry was not accepted by the Committee and the steps taken by the Ministry on the recommendations of the Committee's 47th Report (17th Lok Sabha) on the subject. The representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change replied that they had again presented the Cabinet Note on 23rd September, 2021 but after some objections it had come back and that they are updating it again.

Observations/Recommendations

15. The Committee note that implementation of Forest Policy is crucial for effective conservation, protection and better management of the country's priceless pristine forests. The need for working on implementation of Forest Policy is more than ever to ensure environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium which is vital for sustenance of all life forms, human, animal and plant. The Committee are concerned to note that the Assurance given on the floor of the House on 25.07.2017 with regard to implementation of forest policy has not been implemented even after a lapse of 5 years and the issue still lingers on without any outcome. The Committee are given to understand that though the Assurances pertained to 2017, the Ministry took initiative for implementation of this Policy and a Cabinet Note on National Forest Policy was prepared after public consultation and inter-ministerial consultation in the year 2020. The Note was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat on 21.05.2020 for approval which the latter had returned with some objections. However, even though one year has since passed, the revised Cabinet Note in accordance with the instructions of the Cabinet Secretariat has still not been submitted by the Ministry. The Committee while taking strong objection to considerable delay in fulfillment of the Assurances stress that the country badly needs a proper and futuristic Forest Policy to deal with the emerging challenges in the field not only to prepare itself to meet/address the challenges but also to conserve and preserve the Indian forests which are already under severe pressure of growing demands for fuel, fodder, grazing, timber and non-wood forest products together with lack of involvement of stakeholders in protection and management of forests efficiently.

The Committee's scrutiny of sequence of events has also revealed that the request of the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change for dropping the Assurance was not acceded to by the Committee in their sittings held on 04.12.2019 and 19.01.2021. The Committee presented their 6th and 47th Reports (17th Lok Sabha) on the subject to Lok Sabha on 20.09.2020 and 03.08.2021 respectively wherein they had emphasized on the need to safeguard ecological balance and livelihood security of people and future generations based on preservation, expansion and sustainable management of forests and recommended that the Assurance be brought to its logical end. The Committee had directed the Ministry to pursue the matter vigorously with the stakeholders/agencies concerned and implement the Assurance at the earliest. Thus, the Department could have made concerted and coordinated efforts at least from 2020 onwards to expedite implementation of this Assurance which has not taken place unfortunately. Keeping in view the importance and sensitivity of the subject along with the urgent need for implementation of Forest Policy, the Committee once again impress upon the Ministry to take the recommendations of the Committee seriously and take necessary measures for fulfillment of the Assurance in a time bound manner so that there is no further delay in fulfillment of the Assurance.

B. Eco-Sensitive Areas of Western Ghats

- (i). USQ No. 847 dated 14.12.2018 regarding 'Eco-sensitive Areas of Western Ghats' (Sl. No. 07).
- (ii). USQ No. 1051 dated 08.02.2019 regarding 'Eco-sensitive Areas' (Sl. No. 08).
- (iii). USQ No. 1122 dated 08.02.2019 regarding 'Conservation of Western Ghats' (Sl. No. 09).

16. In reply to the Above said Questions, It was stated that after republishing the latest draft Notification on 03.10.2018, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has sought views/comments of the State Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa. It was further stated that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is willing to finalize the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) Notification duly considering the views of public/stakeholders and the concerned State Governments of the Western Ghats region in consultation with the Expert Committee of Eco Sensitive Zone.

17. Giving an update on the efforts made by them to implement the Assurances, the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change stated in their Status Note in June, 2022 that all possible attempts have been made by the Ministry in bringing convergence on the issue through close interactions with the relevant stakeholders viz. State Governments, Public Representatives and the general public at large, the apprehensions and reservations on the part of each of the stakeholder continue to be

there. The Ministry has also attempted to suitably amend the profile of activities, both prohibited and regulated, so as to address the local needs of the people. An approach of core areas within ESA and the non-core areas in the said ESA (with relaxed restrictions) was also proposed to address the local needs and aspirations of the people as regards to their growth and development. However, the reservations of the respective States, leaders and the public bodies remain. Therefore, Ministry vide OM dated 18.04.2022 has constitute a dedicated committee to reexamine the suggestions of the six State Governments viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu in a holistic manner keeping in view the conservation of pristine environment and the rights, needs and developmental aspiration of the areas.

18. On enquiring the reasons for delay, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change explained the reasons for the delay in implementing the Assurances as under:-

"These three Assurances belong to the Western Ghats eco-sensitive area. In this case a draft of the notification has been placed in the public domain. References have also come from State Governments mentioning the suggestions and problems. Keeping these in mind, a committee has also been formed during its validity. The Committee has been expected to go to every State and establish liaison with the State Government and public representatives and submit its report on how a sensitive zone can be finalized. Presently, this committee is in existence and the draft Notification is also in public domain. Since so many points have been raised by the affected people, it will take a long time. That's why we have requested that more time should be given"

19. Observing that the Ministry have requested for full one year of extension to fulfil the Assurances, the Committee enquired as to whether the Ministry was inviting suggestions from all the States of the Western Ghats to which the Ministry replied in affirmative. When the Committee specifically enquired as to whether any response has come from these States, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change stated as under:

"Meetings of this Committee have also been held. This Committee has met on 26th April and 4th May, 2022. After that, on May 14 to 16, 2022 meetings have been held in Karnataka and Goa. In this way, the Committee meets on the spot and tries to understand whatever the concerns and issues are. Only after that will they be able to give their recommendations. so this is likely to take time."

Observations/Recommendations

20. The Committee are concerned to note that in spite of repeated Assurances given on the floor of the House in 2018 and 2019 on a crucial issue relating to conservation of eco-sensitive areas of Western Ghats these have not been implemented even after lapse of almost 4 years. The issue continues to linger on without any tangible result. The Committee are given to understand that to conserve and protect the unique biodiversity of Western Ghats the Ministry of

Environment, Forest and Climate Change had set up the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) which was followed by High Level Working Group (HLWG) for recommending measures for the conservation of Western Ghats. Based on the recommendation of HLWG to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats, Government had issued first draft Notification on 10.02.2014. Later on, to continue with the Notification process, the draft notification was republished on 04.09.2015 and 27.02.2017 and Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) had arranged several meetings with the entire States of Western Ghats region at various levels. Even though sincere attempts have been made by the Ministry in bringing convergence on issues through close interaction with relevant stakeholders viz. State Governments, Public Representatives and the general public at large, apprehensions and reservations expressed by stakeholders on the issue continue to act as a stumbling block in notification of eco-sensitive zones. It was also decided to constitute a dedicated committee to re-examine the suggestions of the six State Governments viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu in a holistic manner keeping in view the conservation of pristine environment and the rights, needs and developmental aspiration of the areas. The Ministry also informed the Committee during evidence that the notification was placed in the public domain and references came from State Governments mentioning the suggestions and problems. Keeping the said suggestions in mind, a Committee has also been formed and this Committee is expected to go to every State and establish liaison with the State Government and public representatives and submit its report on how a sensitive zone can be finalized. Presently, this Committee is in existence and the draft Notification is also in public domain. The representatives of the Ministry have submitted before the Committee that since many issues/points have been raised by the affected States/persons, the matter will take time and hence the request for further extension of time to fulfill the Assurance has been made. The Committee note that on the spot meetings have been held by the Committee constituted for the purpose on 26th April, 4th May, 2022 and 16th May, 2022 with the concerned State Governments to understand their concerns and issues. Once this process gets over, the Committee will give their recommendations and it is likely to take time. The Committee, while taking note of the fact that the matter involves a complex and sensitive issue, observe that efforts made by the Ministry so far have not yielded any result leading to non-fulfillment of the long pending Assurance. The urgent need for formulation of policy thereby putting in place an Authority to protect and nourish the environment, which is witnessing varied challenges across the globe can hardly be overemphasized. The Committee earnestly desire the Ministry to chalk out an action plan to finalize the notification of Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) across Western Ghats and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

C. Amendment in EIA Notification

USQ No. 4538 dated 19.07.2019 regarding 'Amendment in EIA Notification' (Sl. No. 12).

21. In reply to USQ No. 4538 dated 19.07.2019 regarding 'Amendment in EIA Notification, it was stated that the Zero draft of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2019 has been circulated to all the State Governments, State Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities, State level Expert Appraisal Committees, State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees seeking their comments/objections/ suggestions of the other stake holders.

22. In their Status Note furnished in June, 2022, the Ministry stated that the draft EIA Notification 2020 was published in the official gazette on 11.04.2020 in accordance with Rule 5(3) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, for the information of the public likely to be affected thereby and for giving suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification within a period of 60 days. However, the draft notification was available for public comments upto 11.08.2020 taking into account CoVID19 pandemic restrictions and court directions. More than 20 lakh comments have been received. The Work related to compilation and collation of the comments/suggestions received from all the stakeholders on the draft EIA Notification, 2020 was granted to NEERI, Nagpur. NEERI has submitted the final report. Subsequently, on the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi the translated versions of draft EIA Notification 2020 in twenty-two vernacular languages, were placed in the public domain through website of the Ministry as well as on the website of State Environment Department and SPCBs, and a time period of 60 days was provided for sending comments/objections on the notification. The time period for sending comments/objections came to an end on 15.12.2021. About 725 comments have been received on the e-mail address designated for the purpose. Work order for additional work of compilation and collation of the comments received on draft EIA Notification, 2020 has been issued to NEERI vide letter dated 14.02.2022 and they have submitted the draft report. In the meanwhile, due to the amendment of Environment Protection Rules dated 16.06.2021, the draft EIA Notification 2020 which was due to expire on 06.04.2022 is now valid till 30.10.2022. The notification is still under finalization.

23. Giving an update on the implementation of the Assurance during oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change submitted as under:-

"This Assurance is in relation to the Notification on the Environment Impact Assessment as to whether comments, views and suggestions are being taken for this and as to when these can be finalized. The Notification was in the public domain and every process got delayed during COVID. So, in the meantime the draft notifications were translated."

24. The Committee observed that the Ministry have stated in their Status Note that NEERI has submitted the final Report. However, the Ministry have not provided the

date on which the said Report was submitted by NEERI. The Committee then desired to know as to when was the Report of NEERI submitted. The representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change replied as under:-

"This Report was submitted during September 2021. After NEERI submitted this Report, an Order of High Court came which said that you have to translate it in 22 languages. That's why we could not take NEERI's Report forward and could not even accept it. As per this order of High Court, we have translated it and put it on our website for 60 days. About 700 to 800 comments came in and NEERI was given additional work. It was doing that work, but, in the meanwhile the time limit of Notification under the Environment Protection Act has been extended. We are compiling the comments which have come now. We will do further work by compiling and examining them."

Observations/Recommendations

25. The Committee note that another Assurance on an important and sensitive issue relating to Amendment in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification is pending for implementation for more than 3 years. As regards its implementation, the Committee have been informed that the draft EIA Notification, 2020 was published in the Official Gazette on 11.04.2020 in accordance with Rule 5(3) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, for the information of the public likely to be affected thereby and for giving suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification within a period of 60 days. The draft notification was made available for public comments up to 11.08.2020 taking into account Covid19 pandemic restrictions and court directions. More than 20 lakh comments were received. The work related to compilation and collation of the comments/suggestions received from all the stakeholders on the draft EIA Notification, 2020 was granted to NEERI, Nagpur. NEERI submitted the final Report in September, 2021. Subsequently, as per direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi the translated versions of draft EIA Notification 2020 in twenty-two vernacular languages, were placed in the public domain through the website of the Ministry as well as on the website of State Environment Department and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and a time period of 60 days was provided for sending comments/objections on the Notification. The time period for sending comments/objections came to an end on 15.12.2021. About 725 comments were received on the e-mail address designated for the purpose. Work order for additional work of compilation and collation of the comments received on draft EIA Notification, 2020 was issued to NEERI vide letter dated 14.02.2022. In the meanwhile, due to the amendment of Environment Protection Rules dated 16.06.2021, the draft EIA Notification 2020 which was due to expire on 06.04.2022 was made valid till 30.10.2022. The Ministry further informed the Committee that the notification is still under finalization. Explaining the reasons for non-implementation of such important Assurance for the last three years, the

representatives of the Ministry submitted during oral evidence that amendment of EIA Notifications is taking time as every process got delayed due to COVID Pandemic. Further, the work involved discussions with experts, NGOs, State Governments and other stakeholders which is a detailed and lengthy exercise. Notwithstanding the explanations of the Ministry in the matter, the fact remains that the implementation of the Assurance on an important subject like the one in the instant case has been inordinately delayed. The relevance of Environment Impact Assessment in promoting and upholding a balance between development and environmental preservation and its significance in reaching the objectives of sustainable development can hardly be overemphasized. Keeping in view the importance of the Assurance and relevance of the subject in the emerging scenario, the Committee recommend the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change to make earnest and vigorous efforts to expedite fulfillment of the Assurance.

III. Implementation Reports

26. As per the Statements of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the following 14 Assurances have since been laid on the Table of the House on 27.07.2022 and 08.08.2022:

Table 2

Sl.No	Sl.No. in the Table 1 (Para No. 4)	SQ/USQ No. and date	Date of Implementation
1.	Sl.No.1	USQ No. 1175 dated 08.08.2011 regarding 'River Zone Control Act'	27.07.2022
2.	Sl. No. 2	USQ No. 7245 dated 21.05.2012 regarding 'River Regulation Area'	27.07.2022
3.	Sl. No. 3	USQ No. 3688 dated 17.12.2012 regarding 'River Regulatory Zone'	27.07.2022
4.	Sl.No.4	USQ No. 415 dated 01.12.2015 regarding 'Regulation of Hunting'	27.07.2022
5.	Sl.No.5	SQ No. 224 dated 15.12.2015 (Supplementary by Dr. Manoj Rajoria, M.P.) regarding 'Coastal Management'	27.07.2022

6.	Sl.No.10	USQ No. 80 dated 21.06.2019 regarding 'Forest based Projects'	08.08.2022
7.	Sl.No.13	SQ No. 82 dated 22.12.2019 (Supplementary by Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, M.P.) regarding 'Recycling of Plastics'	27.07.2022
8.	Sl.No.14	USQ No. 1042 dated 22.11.2019 regarding 'Great Indian Bustard'	27.07.2022
9.	Sl.No.15	USQ No. 2060 dated 29.11.2019 regarding 'Protection and Conservation of Wildlife'	27.07.2022
10.	Sl.No.16	SQ No. 268 dated 06.12.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Anil Firojiya, M.P.) regarding 'Conservation of Environment'	27.07.2022
11.	Sl.No.18	USQ No. 1109 dated 07.02.2020 regarding 'Ban on Methyl Isocyanate'	08.08.2022
12.	Sl.No.19	USQ No. 2660 dated 06.03.2020 regarding 'Soil Erosion at River Banks'	27.07.2022
13.	Sl.No.20	USQ No. 3222 dated 13.03.2020 regarding 'Planting of Trees'	27.07.2022
14.	Sl.No.21	SQ No. 381 dated 20.03.2020 regarding 'Environmental Clearance for Irrigation Projects'	27.07.2022

NEW DELHI;
 20 December, 2022
 29 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Extracts from the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in
the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Chapter 8

Assurances

8.1 During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute assurances as approved by the Committee on Government Assurances (CGA) of the respective House, is given at Annex-3. As assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance on the floor of the House.

Definition

8.2 An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This limit has to be strictly followed.

Time limit for fulfilling an assurance

8.3 To ensure early fulfillment of assurances, entire process beginning from culling out of assurances from the proceedings of the House to the submission of Implementation Report including extension of time, dropping and transfer of assurances have been automated through a Software Application named "Online Assurances Monitoring System" (OAMS). Requests for extension of time, dropping or transfer of assurances and submission of Implementation Report through any other offline mode shall not be entertained under any circumstances.

Online Assurances Monitoring System (OAMS)

Culling out of Assurances

8.4 When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer, directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the Department concerned online through 'OAMS' normally within 20 working days of the date on which it is given on the floor of the House.

Deletion from the list of assurances

8.5 If the administrative Ministry/Department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfill it, it may upload its request at 'OAMS' within a week of treating such statement as assurance for getting it deleted from the list of assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister concerned and this fact should be clearly indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a request of extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till the decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is conveyed through 'OAMS'. Requests received through offline mode shall not be entertained by either Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat or Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance

8.6 If the Department finds that it is not possible to fulfill the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required alongwith details of action taken/progress made in the matter. All such request should be submitted at 'OAMS' for decision by CGA thereon with the approval of the concerned Minister.

Registers of Assurances

8.7.1 The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned in a register as at Annex 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section

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8.7.2 Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs through 'OAMS' the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfill such assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annex 5.

8.7.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.7.1 and 8.7.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha assurances, entries therein being made session wise.

The Section Officer in charge of the concerned section will:

Role of Section Officer and Branch Officer

- (a) scrutinize the registers once a week;
- (b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever;
- (c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and
- (d) review of pending assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimize the delay in implementing the assurances.

8.8 The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.

8.9.1 Every effort should be made to fulfill the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an Implementation Report(IR) containing the available information should be uploaded at 'OAMS' in part fulfillment of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.

Procedure for fulfillment of an assurance

8.9.2 Information to be furnished in partial or complete fulfillment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned before it is uploaded at 'OAMS' in both English and Hindi versions in the prescribed pro forma as at Annex-6 , together with its enclosures. After online submission of the Report for fulfillment of the assurance partial or complete as the case may be, four hard copies each in Hindi and English version with one copy of each version duly authenticated by the officer concerned should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for laying until e-laying is adopted by the concerned House.

8.9.3 The Implementation Report should be submitted at 'OAMS' only. Implementation Report sent by any other mode or sent to Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat directly, will not be considered for laying.

Laying of the
Implementation
Report on the Table
of the House

8.10 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after scrutiny of the Implementation Report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the Implementation Report, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member(s) concerned. Details of laying of Implementation Report submitted by the Ministry/Department concerned would be made available by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at 'OAMS'. The Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of information available at 'OAMS', update their records.

Obligation to lay a
paper on the Table
of the House vis-à-
vis assurance on the
same subject

8.11 Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfillment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this, a formal report regarding implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be submitted at 'OAMS' in the prescribed pro forma (Annex-6) in the manner already described in para 8.9.2

8.12 Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Chairman/Speaker. It scrutinizes the Implementation Reports and the time taken in the fulfillment of Government Assurances and focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time as available on 'OAMS' are to be followed strictly.

Committees
on Government
Assurances
RSR 211-A
LSR 323, 324

8.13 The Ministries/Departments will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two Committees for remedial action wherever called for.

Reports of the
Committees on
Government
Assurances

8.14 On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the pending assurances do not lapse. All assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with specific recommendations regarding the assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

Effect on assurances
on dissolution of
the Lok Sabha

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1175
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2011**

River Zone Control Act

1175. **SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:**
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

Will the Minister of **ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has constituted a committee for drafting 'River Zone Control Act';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some organisations have submitted draft policy to his ministry;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
(SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)**

- (a) & (b) : The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Expert Group for formulation of guidelines for management of River fronts through the River Regulation Zone. The Expert Group includes experts in the area of river ecology, hydrology, water pollution and legal matters.
- (c) : No draft policy for River Regulatory Zone has been suggested to the Government by any organisation. However, a Non Governmental Organization namely, Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan, has given certain suggestions for protection of river flood plains.
- (d) & (e) : Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.7245
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/05/2012

River Regulation Area

7245. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to notify River Regulation Area to save riverbed from harmful construction in the future; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of the proposal?

ANSWER

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Expert Group for formulation of guidelines for management of River fronts through the River Regulation Zone. The Expert Group includes experts in the area of river ecology, hydrology, water pollution and legal matters.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3688
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2012

River Regulatory Zone

3688. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any law to save the river bed area like Coastal Regulatory Zone in the name of River Regulatory Zone;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the River Bed of Yamuna River near Noida in Uttar Pradesh was sold out as Farm house/Farm land by the land mafias and farm houses was developed illegally;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Expert Group for formulation of guidelines for management of river fronts through the River Regulation Zone.

(c) to (e) As per information provided by the Irrigation Department, Uttar Pradesh, some temporary hutments have been constructed by private land owners on their own land in the flood plain of river Yamuna. It has also been informed that the State Government issues Notifications/Notices from time to time to not take up construction in the river flood plain.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 415
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015

Regulation of Hunting

415. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to notify a new set of regulations on hunting of wildlife outside the protected areas such as national parks and sanctuaries as well as trade in non-endangered flora and fauna which conservationists dubbed as a license to kill, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has drafted a new wildlife conservation policy which includes rules on wildlife kept in captivity to keep pace with changing times and need along as well as the country's religious and cultural practices and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to keep in tune with the present day challenges of conservation while framing new laws/rules?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a), (b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has circulated a draft wildlife policy to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Wardens of States/Union Territory Governments and members of the National Board for Wildlife for their comments and suggestions. The important policy suggestions mentioned in the draft policy include:
- (i) Complete protection to threatened species everywhere. To redefine threats and schedules accordingly;
 - (ii) Conservation within and outside Protected Areas to be implemented with scientific knowledge based management approach;
 - (iii) Regulation for sustainable use and trade of forest biodiversity from the forests other than Protected Areas, subject to the species specific regulations linked to the schedules.
 - (iv) Redefining hunting for handling of life forms keeping in view the traditional practices;
 - (v) Regulation for domestic and international trade of exotic as well as domestic biodiversity.

However, no final policy decision in this regard has been taken by the Ministry.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.224
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2015

Coastal Management

*224. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the existing policy on Coastal Management envisages security to coastal communities, conservation and protection of the coastal stretches and promotion of sustainable development in the coastal areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to review this policy in the light of various suggestions/representations received from various quarters and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has demarcated hazard line in the coastal areas of the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the time by which hazard line is likely to be demarcated across the country; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for coastal management in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.224 to be answered on Tuesday, the 15th December, 2015 on 'Coastal Management' raised by Shri Sanjay Dhotre and Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

(a) The existing policy on coastal management as laid down in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 and Island Protection Zone (IPZ) Notification, 2011 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 envisages to ensure livelihood security to the coastal communities, to conserve and protect coastal stretches and its marine area and to promote sustainable development on scientific principles taking in to account the dangers of natural hazards in the coastal areas and sea level rise. These Notifications demarcate Coastal regulation zones and island protection zones in coastal stretches; and regulate and restrict setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances in the aforesaid zones.

CRZ Notification, 2011 provides for special dispensation to the local coastal community including permission for reconstruction and repair works of dwelling units in accordance with local town and country planning norms. The notification further provides for ex-post facto approval to construction and repair activities of dwelling units of traditional coastal communities which were undertaken after 1991 without any approval. The construction/reconstruction of dwelling units of traditional coastal communities including fisher folk is permitted between 100 and 200 metres from the HTL along the seafront in accordance with a comprehensive plan prepared by the State Government or the Union Territory in consultation with the traditional coastal communities including fisher folk.

The special dispensation in CRZ regulation for local communities include the delegated authority to local governments including Panchayats for approval of housing and fishing activities in designated CRZs. In Greater Mumbai, reconstruction and repair works of the dwelling units, belonging to fisher communities and other local communities as identified by the State Government, can be considered and granted permission by the Competent Authorities on a priority basis, in accordance with the applicable Town and Country Planning Regulations. In Kerala, beyond 50mts from the High Tide Line (HTL) on the landward side of backwater islands, dwelling units of local communities can be constructed with the prior permission of the Gram Panchayat. In the CRZ of Goa, the Government can notify the fishing villages wherein all foreshore facilities required for fishing and fishery allied activities such as traditional fish processing yards, boat building or repair yards, net mending yards, ice plants, ice storage, auction hall, jetties can be permitted by Grama Panchayat in the CRZ area. Further, the reconstruction, repair works of the structures of local communities including fishermen community is permissible in CRZ.

As per the IPZ Notification, 2011, integrated islands protection zones of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands are required to be managed in accordance with the Integrated Islands Management Plan and Integrated Coastal Regulation Zone Plans by their respective UT Administrations.

(b) The Government has initiated the process to review the CRZ Notification, 2011 in the backdrop of issues raised by the certain Coastal States. An Expert Committee has examined these issues and submitted its report to this Ministry.

(c) & (d) The hazard line demarcation is mandatory under the CRZ Notification, 2011. The Government has started demarcation of hazard line taking into account, tide, waves, sea level rise and shoreline changes all along the mainland coastline of the country through Survey of India. The aerial photography of the mainland coastline and photogrammetry for the west coast has been completed, and the remaining works are scheduled for completion by 31.12.2017.

(e) The Ministry has commissioned a World Bank assisted Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project, which is aimed at preparation of integrated coastal zone management plans for selected coastline stretches of these states through community participation, capacity building and institutional development in the area of coastal management. The phase-I of the project covers Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal. The Government of India in July, 2015 have approved the Phase-II of the project to cover remaining coastal States and Union Territories.

(Q. 224)

श्री संजय धोत्रे: अध्यक्ष महोदया, पैरिस में जलवायु परिवर्तन पर अति महत्वपूर्ण सीओपी 21 परिषद में पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन राज्य मंत्री श्री जावड़ेकर ने हमारे देश का सफलतापूर्वक प्रतिनिधित्व किया।... (व्यवधान) उन्होंने वहाँ जो सुझाव और भूमिका रखी, उसके लिए देश में ही नहीं बल्कि सारे विश्व में उनकी सराहना हो रही है। ... (व्यवधान) मैं इसके लिए उन्हें बधाई देता हूँ और उनका अभिनन्दन करता हूँ।... (व्यवधान)

हमारे देश में शहर, गांव और सभी कारखानों का कूड़ा-कचरा और गंदा पानी नदियों में छोड़ा जाता है, कुछ जगह समुद्र में छोड़ा जाता है जिसके कारण प्रदूषण का स्तर बढ़ रहा है।... (व्यवधान) मैरिन लाइफ पर भी खतरा उत्पन्न हो रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए सरकार ने अभी तक क्या किया है और क्या हासिल हुआ?

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : अध्यक्ष महोदया, लोकल कम्युनिटीज को संरक्षण देने के लिए पहले से जो नियम बने हुए हैं, उनके तहत हाउसिंग और स्पियरिंग की परमिशन दी जाती है। ... (व्यवधान) मुम्बई में 1991 के बाद जिन्होंने घर बसाए, उन्हें भी रेगुलराइज़ किया गया है। फिशरमैन एचटीएल से कितनी दूरी पर मकान बना सकते हैं, इस बारे में लोकल रूल्स बनाए गए हैं। एक सौ और दो सौ मीटर के बीच भी घर स्पियर करने की परमिशन दी गई है।... (व्यवधान) जहाँ तक सॉलिड वेस्ट का मुद्दा है, अगर कोई काम करना है तो सीआरजैड के एरिया में लोकल बॉडी में एनडोर्स करना है कि समुद्र में कचरा न जाए। ... (व्यवधान) उसके लिए कोई फ़ैसिलिटी बनानी है तो सीआरजैड में करने के लिए भी हम परमिशन दे रहे हैं।

श्री संजय धोत्रे: अध्यक्ष महोदया, समुद्र तट का जलस्तर हर साल बढ़ता जा रहा है। वह तकरीबन दो मिलिमीटर से तीन मिलिमीटर तक हर साल बढ़ता है जिसके कारण समुद्र तट की क्षति, इरोजन होता है।... (व्यवधान) जब सुनामी जैसी आपत्ति आती है, उस समय वहाँ मैनग्रोव्स ट्री के कारण उसकी रक्षा होती है। ... (व्यवधान) मैनग्रोव्स का कार्बन उत्सर्जन सबसे ज्यादा है। मैनग्रोव्स का कवर बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। अभी केन्द्र सरकार की एक रिपोर्ट आई जिसमें महाराष्ट्र में समुद्र तट में इस दशक में सबसे ज्यादा मैनग्रोव्स कवरेज बढ़ा है।... (व्यवधान) लेकिन महाराष्ट्र की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि मैनग्रोव्स का कवर कम हुआ है।... (व्यवधान) मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन सी रिपोर्ट सही है और मैनग्रोव्स बढ़ाने के लिए हम क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : अध्यक्ष महोदया, यह सही है कि मैनग्रोवज हमारी एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विरासत है। This is really a very important part of marine ecology. मैंने इस बारे में महाराष्ट्र में मुख्य मंत्री और आला अधिकारियों के साथ दो बैठकें कीं। ... (व्यवधान) अब हम एक नया नियम ला रहे हैं जिसमें सौ हेक्टेयर का मैनग्रोवज किसी विकास के प्रोजेक्ट के कारण या किसी दूसरे काम में जाता है। जैसे मुंबई में कोस्टल रोड को करना जरूरी था, कोस्टल रोड को हमने परमिशन दी है ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन उसके साथ साथ हमने यह भी नियम बनाया है कि अगर इसके लिए 100 हेक्टेयर जाता है तो उसके लिए 300 हेक्टेयर का निर्माण करना पड़ेगा। मैनग्रोव को रिजर्व फॉरेस्ट घोषित किया गया है। ... (व्यवधान) हमारा फ़ैसला इसे तीन गुना करके का है। महाराष्ट्र का पूरा बॉर्डर 712 किलोमीटर है, हमने इसके लिए जगह मुकर्रर करने के लिए कहा है ... (व्यवधान) जो सफलता की रिपोर्ट है उसी को आप सही मानें। पिछले दो सालों में मैनग्रोवज बढ़े हैं, कम नहीं हुए हैं। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मेरा आप सभी से निवेदन है कि आप अपनी जगह पर जाइए, यह बहुत ही दुःख की बात है, आपका कोई भी अधिकार मारा नहीं जा रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) मैंने आपको शून्यकाल में समय देने के लिए कहा है। यह बात अच्छी नहीं है, ... (व्यवधान) आप जो भी प्रश्न उठाना चाहते हैं उसे मैंने डिसअलाऊ नहीं किया है। आप इतने सारे सदस्यों का अधिकार मार रहे हैं, रोज इस प्रकार से करना ठीक नहीं है। यहां पर कोई तानाशाही नहीं कर रहा है, ... (व्यवधान) कोई किसी को शर्म करो जैसी बात भी नहीं है। हमने जीरो ऑवर में एलाऊ करने के लिए कहा है। हर व्यक्ति अपनी टर्म और कंडिशन पर बोलना शुरू करेगा तो सदन चलाना मुश्किल हो जाएगा। ... (व्यवधान) सदन नियम के अनुसार ही चलेगा। हमने आपको बोलने के लिए कहा है लेकिन आप बोलना नहीं चाहते हैं, केवल सदन को बाधित करना चाहते हैं और दूसरे लोगों को बाधित कर रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) भतृहरि महताब जी को प्रश्न पूछना है और आप उनके सामने खड़े रहकर हल्ला करेंगे तो यह उनके अधिकार का भी हनन है। कृपया आप अपनी जगह पर चले जाइए। मैं सभी को शून्य काल में बोलने का मौका दूंगी। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam, I may be allowed to ask the question from this seat.

HON. SPEAKER: You will have to.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : While looking at the Minister of Environment & Forests, one does not find that he is suffering from jetlag. He has acclimatized himself in Paris and has also acclimatized himself here in this House. Madam, the question is relating to risk to coastal communities and infrastructure.

According to the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, Asia will be one of most severely affected regions of the world as a result of global warming. The IPCC estimates that even by its most conservative scenario, sea level will be above 40 cm higher than today in 2100 as the sea level has been increasing at an average 3.1 mm per year. Such a rise in sea level will affect the coastal zones in multiple ways including inundation and displacement of wetlands and lowlands, coastal erosion, increased coastal storm/floods, alteration of tidal ranges, as well as changes in sediment and nutrients transport. India is not an exception to this scenario. Major States that are going to be affected are Gujarat, Odisha, and parts of Andhra Pradesh.

Has the Government taken this scenario into consideration during the formation of the existing policy on coastal management? If not, how would the Government protect the coastal areas from the risk of rise in sea level, especially in Odisha?

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर: महोदया, आपने जो सवाल पूछा है वह महत्वपूर्ण है। सी, आईसी, जेड, एम यानि गुजरात, बंगाल और चंडीसा का प्लान बन कर आया है और वह चल रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) हमने बाकी राज्यों को भी करने का निर्णय लिया है, ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन केवल केरल का ही कन्सेंट नोट आया है बाकी राज्यों ने डीपीआर नहीं भेजा है। सी-लेवल राइज होने पर सारी फिशरीज कम्युनिटी वलनरेबल होती है और जो किनारों पर रहते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) उनको बचाने के लिए ही सीआरजेड नीति में बड़ा परिवर्तन करने के लिए हमारी तैयारी चल रही है। ... (व्यवधान) उसके बारे में हम घोषणा करेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन आईसीजेडएमपी प्रोजेक्ट, जैसे मैंने कहा कि सभी राज्यों के लिए किया है। ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन केवल ओडिशा, गुजरात और बंगाल, इन तीन राज्यों की ही डीपीआर आयी, जहां काम चल रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) ओडिशा के बारे में स्पेसिफिक कोई और जानकारी चाहिए, तो उसे मैं माननीय सदस्य को दे दूंगा। ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन जब तक डीपीआर नहीं आयेगी, तब तक हम बाकी राज्यों का नहीं कर सकते। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Madam Speaker, in the answer given by the hon. Minister, the steps taken for the coastal management are given. As stated by the Minister, lakhs and lakhs of fishermen are residing in coastal areas. India has a

very long coast line. The State of Kerala has a very long coast line having a length of 600 kms. The coastal area is also a sensitive zone. As regards security of coastal areas, law and order issues are also there. Then, it is also the question of the lives of lakhs of fishermen. In this connection, the Government of Kerala has requested for the construction of a Coastal Police Headquarters in the coastal area of Kerala. So, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has received that proposal and whether the Government has taken any steps to give financial assistance for maintaining the coastal areas, especially in Kerala.

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : अध्यक्ष महोदया ... (व्यवधान) हम राज्यों के लिए कोस्टल मैनेजमेंट जोन कर रहे हैं, लेकिन Kerala has sent only the Concept Note. Unless we receive the Detailed Project Report, it will not be possible to sanction money because there is a process.

As far as coastal security is concerned, Coast Guard, MHA and others are looking after it. It was the Coast Guard Chowkis which he was referring to. This was not allowed earlier for years together. But we have allowed all Coast Guard Chowkis so that the Coast Guard can take care of coastal security. At the same time, as regards Coastal Zonal Plans, as and when States send DPRs we will examine them. I think the Member can prevail upon the Government of Kerala to send the DPR early because that is important.

डॉ. मनोज राजोरिया: अध्यक्ष महोदया, कोस्टल मैनेजमेंट के ऊपर मंत्री महोदय ने जो तैयारी की है। ... (व्यवधान) अभी हाल ही में तमिलनाडु में बाढ़ का प्रकोप, विशेष तौर से चेन्नई शहर में देखने को मिला, वह हम सबके लिए एक बड़ी चुनौती है कि किस तरीके से ... (व्यवधान) जब प्राकृतिक का प्रकोप झेलना पड़ता है, तो उसकी वजह से आम जन को कितनी जन-धन की हानि होती है। ... (व्यवधान)

महोदया, मैं सर्वप्रथम मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने पेरिस में क्लाइमेट चेंज पर भारत का पक्ष बहुत मजबूत तरीके से रखा। ... (व्यवधान) इसके लिए मंत्री जी और भारत सरकार बधाई के पात्र हैं। ... (व्यवधान) मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी और उनकी टीम को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि तमिलनाडु में जो तबाही मची, उसे जिस तरीके से इन्होंने नियंत्रित किया और जनता का सहयोग किया, वह बहुत प्रशंसनीय है। ... (व्यवधान)

महोदय, कोस्टल एरियाज में भारी नुकसान होने का एक कारण यह है कि स्थानीय स्तर पर नदियां और छोटे-छोटे नालों का बहाव जो जमीन से लेकर समुद्र की तरफ आता है, उस पर अतिक्रमण होने की वजह से भी बहुत भारी नुकसान होता है। ... (व्यवधान) वह अतिक्रमण नियंत्रण करना स्थानीय सरकारों, राज्य सरकारों के हाथ में होता है। ... (व्यवधान) कुछ ऐसे लोग जो अपने लाभ के लिए आम जन का नुकसान करते हैं और ऐसी त्रासदी, जो चेन्नई में देखने को मिली, उसके लिए अतिक्रमण एक बहुत बड़ा कारण है। ... (व्यवधान)

मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूंगा कि राज्य सरकारों से समन्वय करके, बातचीत करके नदियों और नालों, जो समुद्र की ओर पानी ले जाते हैं, जिससे तबाही को रोका जा सके, उन अतिक्रमणों को उठाने और भविष्य में रोकने के लिए भारत सरकार की क्या योजना है? ... (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत महत्वपूर्ण सवाल पूछा है और इसका सीधा जवाब यही है कि नाले का नैचुरल फ्लो कहीं भी डिस्टर्ब होता है तो निश्चित रूप से बाधा पैदा होती है क्योंकि पानी जाता नहीं है, रुक जाता है। हमने वर्ष 2011 में सारे जल स्रोत हर गांव, हर कूचे में गिने थे तो सात लाख थे लेकिन अब कम रह गए हैं। यह सही है कि मिट्टी डालकर अतिक्रमण होता है। सारे जल स्रोतों और जल वाहनों की व्यवस्था वैसी ही बनी रहे, उल्टा इसे ज्यादा पुरख्ता करना जरूरी है। रिवर रेगुलेशरी जोन में जहां नदी और खाड़ी का पानी मिलता है, वहां हम निश्चित रूप से व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं, नई पालिसी ला रहे हैं जिससे वहां प्रतिबंधित तरीके से, नियमित तरीके से विकास का कार्य हो और जल का संचय न हो। River Regulation Zone is under consideration which we will be declaring very soon.

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, इस विषय के उत्तर में माननीय मंत्री जी ने स्पष्ट किया है कि मछुआरे खास कर स्थानीय समुदाय, जो समुद्र तट पर बैठे हैं, उनके घर के पुनर्निर्माण या नया घर बनाने के लिए सीआरजेड में 100 और 200 मीटर का नियम बनाया है। उत्तर में यह भी कहा है कि केरल राज्य में 50 मीटर का रिलैक्सेशन है और गोवा में भी 50 मीटर के बाद सीआरजेड में रिलैक्सेशन मिलता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि कोंकण के मुम्बई, रायगढ़, थाणा, रत्नागिरी और सिंधुदुर्ग में समुद्र किनारे बैठे स्थानीय निवासियों और मछुआरों की बस्ती के पुनर्निर्माण के लिए केरल के आधार पर 50 मीटर का रिलैक्सेशन करेंगे?

सिंधुदुर्ग एक टूरिज्म डिस्ट्रिक्ट है। यहां बहुत ज्यादा संख्या में टूरिस्ट आते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि सिंधुदुर्ग टूरिज्म डिस्ट्रिक्ट होने के नाते सीआरजेड में कुछ रिलैक्सेशन देने की व्यवस्था करेंगे?

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, पहले हमें तो यह समझना चाहिए कि गोवा और केरल की विशेष स्थिति है। Goa and Kerala are especially small States having unique land, water pattern. यह अजीब तरीके से है, एक तरफ सहयाद्री का वैस्टर्न घाट है और आगे समुद्र है। वहां जैसे ही फीचर्स दिखते हैं। 50 मीटर का नियम गोवा और केरल के लिए बना है, वहां पहले जो बदली हुई स्थिति थी, उसके आधार पर ही बना है। इसे सब जगह करने की बात नहीं है। हमारे देश में 5500 किलोमीटर कोस्टल एरिया है। कोस्टल एरिया में इसे सब जगह नहीं कर सकते हैं। जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि हम नई सीआरजेड पालिसी पर काम कर रहे हैं। हम विचार कर रहे हैं कि कैसे दुनिया ने इस पर काम किया है, कहां अच्छा प्लान का डेवलपमेंट हुआ है और अतिक्रमण रोका गया है। अगर सी लैवल राइज़ भी होता है तो एवैक्युएशन कैसे होगा, इस पर विचार करके लोगों ने काम किया है। हमने लगभग 40-50 देशों का अध्ययन करके और अपने देश के पिछले 30 साल में सीआरजेड कानून के अनुभव पर विचार किया है। जब इसके बारे में निर्णय होगा, आपको बता दिया जाएगा।

मुम्बई के लिए दो विशेष प्रावधान किए हैं। पहला यह है कि वर्ष 1991 के बाद भी जिनका अतिक्रमण था, उसे रेग्यूलराइज किया गया है और फिशरमैन के लिए हम लोकल रूल्स लाए हैं और सौ, दो सौ मीटर के बीच है।... (व्यवधान) हर क्षेत्र की विषय स्थिति को देखकर ही नियम बनाए गए हैं। इस विषय में यदि आपके कोई सुझाव हैं तो जरूर भेजिए, उन पर विचार किया जाएगा।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मीनाक्षी लेखी। आप कृपया शार्ट में प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्रीमती मीनाक्षी लेखी : महोदया, मंत्री जी ने पूर्व प्रश्नों के उत्तर में बताया चाहे अतिक्रमण हो या प्रदूषण हो, जब एक नदी समुद्र में जाकर मिलती है तो वह कई राज्यों से हो कर जाती है। अतिक्रमण और प्रदूषण की अधिकतर समस्याएं राज्यों के कार्य क्षेत्र में आते हैं।... (व्यवधान) जब संबंधित राज्य अपने कार्य क्षेत्र में पूरी गंभीरता से काम नहीं करते हैं तो केंद्र सरकार किन कानूनों के मुताबिक या किस प्रकार से उन राज्यों पर वे काम करवाने के लिए दबाव बना पाती है तथा क्या एन.जी.टी. या अन्य संस्थाओं का उपयोग किया जाता है? ... (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : महोदया, निश्चित रूप से अगर किसी की शिकायत है और वे एन.जी.टी. जैसे ट्रिब्यूनल में जाते हैं तो वहां उनकी सुनवाई होती है लेकिन केंद्र सरकार भी एनवायरमेंट प्रोटेक्शन एक्ट-5

और कोस्टल रेग्युलेटरी रूल्स के तहत कार्रवाई कर सकते हैं और डायरेक्शंस भी इश्यू कर सकते हैं।... (व्यवधान) राज्य सरकारों को बार-बार निर्देश जारी करने के बाद भी अगर अतिक्रमण नहीं रोका जाता है तो क्या किया जाना चाहिए, इसमें मुश्किल आती है। इसके भी कड़े प्रावधान हैं लेकिन वहां तक जाने के पहले हम संवाद की प्रक्रिया पूरी कर रहे हैं और रीवर रेग्युलेटरी जोन इसी के लिए है और ये नियम सभी को बताया है और इन नियमों के इनफोर्समेंट के लिए हम विशेष प्रयास कर रहे हैं।... (व्यवधान) जब भी इस संबंध में कोई शिकायत आती है तो विशेष जांच भी कराते हैं।

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1587
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2017

Implementation of Forest Policy

1587. SHRI LALLU SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a recommendation has been made in a report submitted to the Government for implementation of Forest Policy;
- (b) if so, the acreage of the land recommended to be included as forest land under the policy;
- (c) whether the decision has so far been taken to implement the said policy;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard; and
- (e) the time by which the said policy is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) to (e) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is not aware of any such report regarding implementation of Forest Policy. However, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) was asked to prepare a draft National Forest Policy document. IIFM has submitted the draft policy document. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not finalized the new National Forest Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 847
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2018

Eco-Sensitive Areas of Western Ghats

847. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has republished the draft notification regarding Western Ghats Eco Sensitive Areas (ESA) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received views/comments/reports on ESAs from all the Western Ghats States and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to issue final notification of the same very recently and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is planning to incorporate the views of State Government of Kerala in restricting ESA to forest only while issuing final notification and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has republished the draft Notification to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats vide S.O.5135(E) dated 03.10.2108. After republishing the draft Notification, this Ministry had issued letters seeking views /comments of the State Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa.

(c) & (d) The Ministry is willing to finalise the notification duly considering the views of public/stakeholders and the concerned State Governments, including the State of Kerala in consultation with the Expert Committee of Eco Sensitive Zone.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1051
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019

Eco-Sensitive Areas

1051. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:
SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is progressing with final notification of Eco Sensitive Areas (ESA) across Western Ghats, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to include more areas under ESA, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has raised objections in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the consultation with State Governments has been completed. If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has any commitment regarding declaration of ESA, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) to (e) To conserve and protect the unique biodiversity of Western Ghats the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) had set up the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) which was followed by High Level Working Group (HLWG) for recommending measures for the conservation of the Western Ghats.

Based on the recommendation of HLWG to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats, Government had issued first draft Notification *vide* S.O. 733 (E) on 10.02.2014. Later, to continue with the Notification process, the draft Notification was republished *vide* S.O. 2435 (E) on 04.09.2015 and S.O. 667 (E) on 27.02.2017 and MoEF&CC had arranged several meetings with the entire States of Western Ghats region at various levels on 15th January 2016; 9th to 11th February 2016; 11th August, 2016 and 11th April 2018. As, the State Governments, based on physical verification proposed to alter / reduce the ESA of their States from the original recommendations of HLWG, the draft Notification could not be finalised and the draft Notification is again republished *vide* S.O. 5135 (E) on 03.10.2018.

In order to follow a coherent and consistent approach in notifying the ESA of the Western Ghats, MoEF& CC after republishing the latest draft Notification on 03.10.2018 has sought views /comments of the state Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa. MoEF&CC is willing to finalise the ESA Notification in consultation with all the States of the Western Ghats region.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019

Conservation of Western Ghats

1122. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision about the final notification on the Kasturirangan panel report relating to the conservation of Western Ghats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons there for and the time by which the final notification is likely to be issued?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c) Based on the recommendation of High Level Working Group (HLWG) to declare Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) of the Western Ghats, Government had issued first draft Notification *vide* S.O. 733 (E) on 10.02.2014. As the validity of the draft Notification is 545 days, to continue the Notification process, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has republished the draft Notification thrice *vide* S.O. 2435 (E) on 04.09.2015, S.O. 667 (E) on 27.02.2017 and S.O. 5135 (E) on 03.10.2018.

After republishing the latest draft Notification on 03.10.2018, MoEF&CC has sought views /comments of the state Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa. MoEF&CC is willing to finalise the ESA Notification in consultation with all the States of the Western Ghats region.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 80
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

Forest based Projects

80. SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any forest based projects sanctioned by the Union Government including the projects in Rajasthan have been delayed for a long time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a number of proposals for forest based projects are pending for approval of the Union Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to accord sanction to these pending projects/ proposals and accelerate the work on the sanctioned projects?

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

- (a) & (b) No Sir, decision on all forest based projects which have been received complete in all respect from the State Government, have been considered appropriately in this Ministry as per the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 including the projects of Rajasthan.
- (c) & (d) Decision on four project proposal for diversion of forest land under the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been taken within the stipulated time due to want of Site Inspection Report (SIR).

The details of these four projects pending with this Ministry is Annexed. The matters are being actively pursued with concerned regional offices of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for early submission of Site Inspection Report (SIR).

Annexure

Annexure referred in the answer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 80 by SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA due for answer 21.06.2019 regarding "Forest based Projects".

Details of state-wise pending proposals for in Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980							
Sl. No	State	File No.	Name of Proposal	Area diverted (in ha)	Category	Pending for (Stage-I/ Stage-II)	Remarks
1	Jharkhand	8-61/2018-FC	Purnadih OCP	323.49	Mining	Pending for Stage-I	Site Inspection Report is awaited from Regional Office, Ranchi vide Ministry's letter dated 14.09.2018 & again Site Inspection Report reminder letter sent to Regional Office on 08.01.2019.
2	Jharkhand	8-62/2018-FC	K.D Hesalong opencast project	126.72	Mining	Pending for Stage-I	Site Inspection Report is awaited from Regional Office, Ranchi vide Ministry's letter dated 04.10.2018 & again Site Inspection Report reminder letter sent to Regional Office on 08.01.2019.
3	Madhya Pradesh	8-77/2018-FC	Sagar Zoo and Rescue Center Sagar	100	Others	Pending for Stage-I	Site Inspection Report is awaited from Regional Office, Bhopal vide Ministry's letter dated 13.12.2018.
4	Telangana	8-06/2019-FC	Shrirampur Cpen Cast-II, Expansion Project, Mancherial Dist - 162.45 ha	162.45	Mining	Pending for Stage-I	Site Inspection Report is awaited from Regional Office, Chennai vide Ministry's letter dated 18.03.2019

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 296
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.07.2019

Amendment in Biological Diversity Act, 2002

*296. SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the existing Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to make it more pro-public and eco-friendly in near future, especially for the North-Eastern region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time-frame for the proposed amendments in the aforementioned Act?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 296 to be answered on Friday, the 12th July, 2019 on 'Amendment in Biological Diversity Act, 2002 raised by Shri Rebatî Tripura and Shri Santosh Kumar.

(a) to (d) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 enacted in pursuance to the Convention on Biological Diversity to which India is a Party, is aimed at conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of these resources, also known as access and benefit sharing (ABS). The Act extends to the whole of India, including the North East region. Further, the Act provides for State Governments to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

The Act is implemented through a three-tiered institutional mechanism, namely National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) at the national level, State Biodiversity Boards at the State level, and Biodiversity Management Committees at the local body level.

Under the Act, Biological Diversity Rules were notified in 2004, and Guidelines on Access and Benefit Sharing notified by NBA in 2014. The ABS Guidelines are in the process of revision by NBA, based on the experience gained so far and consultations with stakeholders. The draft of the revised ABS Guidelines prepared by a Committee constituted for this purpose was posted on NBA's website on 24.4.2019 for public comments. The next steps inter alia include : examination of the comments received, consultations with stakeholders, and requisite approvals. The revised Guidelines on ABS are expected to be notified within a year.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4538
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2019

Amendments in EIA Notification

4538. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the provisions of the draft notification on amendment to Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) has been criticized by the National Green Tribunal and other stakeholders and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry proposes to bring amendment in the said provisions and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has issued notifications diluting the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act thereby dispensing with the mandatory requirement under sub-rule 3 of Rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and;
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Ministry has taken up comprehensive review of the EIA Notification, 2006 with the objectives *inter alia*, including, integration of amendments and office memoranda issued from time to time by the Ministry; decentralization; rationalization; clarity in the provisions; compatibility to online system; Standard Operating Procedures (SoP); integration of issues raised during implementation of EIA Notification 2006; implementation of directions of Courts / Tribunal; etc. The zero draft of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2019 has been circulated to all the State Governments, State Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities, State Level Expert Appraisal Committees, State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees seeking their comments/objections/ suggestions of the other stake holders.

(c) & (d) Sub-rule (4) of the Rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 provides that notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (3), whenever it appears to the Central Government that it is in the public interest to do so, it may dispense with the requirement of notice under clause (a) of sub-rule (3) or Rule 5 of the said Rules. In exercise of these powers conferred, whenever it appears that amendments are in the public interest, notifications are issued from time to time.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *82
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2019

Recycling of Plastics

*82. SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI:
SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of plastic waste being generated and recycled separately, in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has plan to implement any new scheme for recycling plastics and using them in building highways and other suitable areas/projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated to States for the said purpose, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the quantum of plastics which goes untreated?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 82 to be answered on Friday, the 22nd November, 2019 on "Recycling of Plastics" by Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi and Shri S. Muniswamy

(a) With continued economic development, the demand for consumer goods is increasing. Among the various factors driving this growth, one of the most significant factor is increasing use of plastics by the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector. Due to its durability, strength, inert behaviour and low cost, plastic emerged as one of the most reliable packaging material for the industries. As an outcome, the increase in demand for plastic has indirectly resulted into the challenge of plastic waste management.

With an objective to ensure the sound management of plastic waste, Ministry has already started taking initiatives, for effective management of plastic waste in the country. The Government has notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 for environmentally sound management of plastic waste and to prevent plastic pollution in the country. The generators of waste under the Rules have been mandated to take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste, not to litter plastic waste, ensure segregated storage of waste at source and handover the segregated waste to the local bodies or agencies authorised by them or registered waste pickers or registered recyclers. For proper regulation and sound recycling of plastic, provisions have been made for registration of all plastic recyclers with respective State/UT Pollution Control Boards/Committees. Every Urban Local body has been made responsible for setting up of infrastructure for collection, segregation and processing, including recycling and disposal of plastic waste. The local bodies have also been mandated to create awareness among all stakeholders about their respective responsibilities.

As per the study conducted by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 60 major cities of India, it has been estimated that around 4059 T/day of plastic waste is generated from these cities. Extrapolating this plastic waste generation data from 60 major cities to the entire country, it is estimated that around 25,940 T/day of plastic waste is generated in India. There are 4773 registered plastic manufacturing / compostable manufacturing / Multi-Layer Plastic manufacturing / recycling units in the country. Approximately 15,384 Ton/day, which is 60% of the total plastic waste, is collected and recycled. This recycled plastic is used in manufacturing of several products. The remaining 10556 Ton/day of the plastic waste, which is estimated to be approximately 40% of plastic waste generation, remains uncollected and littered in the environment.

(b) and (c) The Government has no new scheme or fund allocation for recycling of plastic. However, to utilize the uncollected plastic waste, the Rules, 2016 prescribed the local bodies to encourage the use of plastic waste (preferably the plastic waste which cannot be further recycled) for road construction as per Indian Road Congress guidelines, co-processing of plastic waste in cement kilns, conversion of plastic waste into liquid RDF (Oil) and disposal of plastic waste through Plasma Pyrolysis Technology (PPT). Further, the Rules specify that recycling of plastic waste shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534:1998.

(d) As pronounced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Ministry is working on the principle of 6R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, Redesign and Remanufacture.) to combat with plastic pollution. In this perspective and to promote ecologically sustainable and green alternatives of plastics, the Ministry has subsequently issued "Standard Guidelines on Single Use Plastic" with suggested different set of actions for State/UT Government to minimize the usage of single use plastics.

The Ministry issued instructions to the offices coming under its administrative jurisdiction, Regional Offices of the Ministry, offices of Central Government and its departments, major PSUs, corporates, institutes etc. to prohibit single-use plastic products including water bottles, take away coffee cups, lunch wrapped in disposable plastic packaging, plastic bags, disposable food containers, plates and containers made of polystyrene foam, plastic straws etc. from their offices. Awareness creation exercise were undertaken in schools through Eco-Clubs operating in different States about ill effects of "single use plastic".

Recently, on the call of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a three-phase campaign "Swachhta Hi Sewa" (SHS) was launched from 11th Sep, 2019, which ended on Diwali i.e. 27th October 2019. This campaign inter-alia focused on awareness, advocacy, collection and safe disposal of littered plastic.

Under the campaign, all stakeholders i.e. general public, students, industry, governments and local bodies came together and collected waste plastic from houses, streets, public places like parks, beaches, markets, religious and tourist places etc. Urban Local Bodies, Gram Panchayats, Government organisations and others made arrangements to deposit the collected plastic waste at designated locations for recycling. Start-ups, technical bodies and corporates came forward with their plans to recycle the collected waste. Eventual goal of the campaign was that the plastic waste is not dumped on land or into water but is recycled in environmentally sound manner. The campaign has achieved its near-term goal of creating awareness on the menace of plastic pollution. Emerging out of the above campaign, the local bodies and States have set up systems for collection and safe disposal of such waste.

(Q. 82)

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI : Sir, as far as the question of plastics is concerned, I have a suggestion to make. On the question of whether we put them in highways, there are simply not enough highways for the amount of plastic that is being generated in a single day. I have another idea which other countries are using. That is that there is a Japanese company that has got a machine called 'Blest'. This is being used by the Nordic countries, now by Azerbaijan and others to re-turn plastics back into oil. If you put in a certain type of plastic which we use very frequently, it becomes oil again. This oil can be monetised and sold for generators or other low-grade purposes. If we monetise plastic and ask poor people to bring it in, you will then be able to get the plastic out of the rivers, out of ponds, out of villages and into a collection centre where it can be turned into oil again. There is no other way to deal with plastic at this point.

I would like to know if the Government would consider this.

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर: अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज प्लास्टिक के बारे में चार सवाल हैं और आपने उन सभी को इकट्ठा किया है, यह बहुत अच्छा है। देश में लगभग पच्चीस-तीस हजार टन कचरा प्लास्टिक रोज जमा होता है यानी रोज तैयार होता है, लेकिन उसका दो तिहाई ही कलैक्ट होता है और एक तिहाई नहीं होता है। यदि तीस हजार टन कचरा है तो बीस हजार टन ही इकट्ठा होता है और दस हजार टन इकट्ठा नहीं होता है और वह बिखर जाता है। वह सालों तक बिखरा रहता है। उससे नालियां चोक हो जाती हैं। उससे लिचेटिंग होता है, उसका प्रदूषण में परिणाम होता है।

प्लास्टिक एक बड़ी समस्या बन गई है। वास्तव में भारत में प्लास्टिक की खपत प्रति व्यक्ति ग्यारह किलो प्रति साल है, अमेरिका में 110 है। लेकिन कलैक्ट होना मुख्य मुद्दा है जो नहीं होता है। इसे कैसे कलैक्ट करें, मैं इसके बारे में जानकारी देना चाहता हूं। ऑयल तैयार करने की अनेक फैक्ट्री हैं, तीन फैक्ट्रियों का उद्घाटन तो मैंने किया है। ये टेक्नोलॉजी है और चल भी रही है। आपने नए मैकेनिज्म के बारे में बताया है, सीपीसीबी और डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी ने मिल कर एक टीम बनाई है जो नई टेक्नोलॉजी के बारे में प्रस्ताव आते हैं उनकी जांच करते हैं और एडवाइस देते हैं।

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI : I am going to pursue this because I was suggesting that if municipalities bought this machine and we copied it or made an Indian version of it, and we paid for it to be collected and brought to us, and then fed that plastic into the machine, you will be able to get rid of plastic very quickly. It has been tried in other countries. In fact, the Nordic countries are clean because they use this technology.

The point is this. Are we ever going to look at it? Maybe, we could send a team to Japan to see how they do it. There was a big exhibition now in Baku. A lot of Indian business people had also gone there to look at it. It has passed every trial. It would be important for India to consider a machine like that.

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर: अध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा मैंने शुरू में कहा किसी भी माननीय सदस्य ने अगर सुझाव दिया और उसका हमने एक स्थान तय किया है। सीपीसीबी और डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी उस तंत्र ज्ञान के बारे में जानकारी और परीक्षण लेकर उचित सलाह म्यूनिसिपल बॉडी को देते हैं। इस सुझाव का भी निश्चित रूप से परीक्षण होगा।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री एस. मुनिस्वामी - उपस्थित नहीं।

श्री दुष्यंत सिंह - उपस्थित नहीं।

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1042
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2019

Great Indian Bustard

1042. SHRI B.N. BACHE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard is nearing extinction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for conservation of the Great Indian Bustard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) and (b) The Critically Endangered Great Indian Bustard faces imminent risk of extinction. There has been a decline in population of Great Indian Bustard due to combination of anthropogenic factors, such as historical hunting, conversion of its habitat, grasslands to intensive agriculture, and emerging threats like mortality due to collision/ electrocution with the power lines in its habitat and nest/predation by dogs and other predators in its breeding sites. As per the estimation of Wildlife Institute of India, the current population of Great Indian Bustard is estimated to be about 130-150 birds with the majority of the population in Jaisalmer Rajasthan at about 120 birds, Gujarat with 6 female birds, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka combined about 15-25 birds.
- (c) Steps taken/being taken by the Government for conservation of Great Indian Bustards are as given below:
 - i. The Great Indian Bustard is listed in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby, according them highest degree of legal protection from hunting.
 - ii. Important habitats of Great Indian Bustards are designated as National

Parks/ Sanctuaries for their better protection.

- iii. The species has been identified for conservation efforts under the component 'Species Recovery Programme' of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - Development of Wildlife Habitat. Financial and technical assistance is provided to the State/ Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of Wildlife Habitat for providing better protection to Great Indian Bustard and its habitat.
- iv. Ministry has taken up an initiative on conservation breeding of the Great Indian Bustard in collaboration with Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra Forest Departments and technical support from Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The Ministry with financial support from National Authority for Compensatory Afforestation Funds has sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 33.85 crores for the duration of five years for the programme titled 'Habitat Improvement and Conservation Breeding of Great Indian Bustard-an integrated approach'. The important objective of this programme is to build up captive population of Great Indian Bustard and to release the chicks in the wild for increasing the population and also to promote *in-situ* conservation of the species.
- v. In consultation with State Government, Wildlife Institute of India and international experts, a site for establishment of Conservation breeding Centre has been identified in Kota District, Rajasthan under the above mentioned project. Currently a facility with incubator, hatcher, chick rearing and housing for captive birds (upto 1 year age) has been set up at Sam, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan and is managed by WII Scientists, Rajasthan Forest Department with the technical assistance of the International Fund for Houbara Conservation and Reneco, Abu Dhabi who have a vast experience in breeding the related Houbara and Arabian Bustards in captivity.
- vi. Ministry has also constituted a Task Force for suggesting Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of power transmission lines and other power transmission infrastructures on wildlife including the Great Indian Bustard.
- vii. Ministry has requested the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Ministry of Power to direct the power supply agencies to implement the mitigation measures such as installation of bird diverters on power lines, undergrounding of power lines upto 33 KV, painting of vanes of wind turbines etc.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2060
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2019

Protection and Conservation of Wildlife

2060. SHRIMATI SANDHYA RAY:
SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI K. NAVASKANI:
SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:
SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated Bustard Recovery Programme for Great Indian Bustard, if so, the details and the success achieved as a result thereof;
- (b) the quantum of financial and technical assistance provided by the Government to the State/Union Territory Governments for protection and conservation of wildlife including Great Indian Bustards under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has asked the Centre to prepare a time-bound action plan within two months for protection of the Great Indian Bustards, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has provided any assistance to the Forest Department for the protection of Great Indian Bustard and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government for protection of endangered animals and birds in the country including Great Indian Bustard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) Ministry has taken up an initiative on conservation breeding of the Great Indian Bustard in collaboration with the State Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra and technical support from Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and financial support from "National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority" with a total budget of Rs. 33.85 crores

for the duration of five years for the programme titled 'Habitat Improvement and Conservation Breeding of Great Indian Bustard-an integrated approach'. The important objective of this programme is to build up captive population of Great Indian Bustard and to release the chicks in the wild for increasing the population and also to promote *in-situ* conservation of the species. As part of the programme, currently a facility with incubator, hatchery, chick rearing and housing for captive birds (upto 1 year age) has been set up at Sam, Jaisalmer in Rajasthan and is managed by staff of Rajasthan Forest Department and scientists of Wildlife Institute of India and 'International Fund for Houbara Conservation' and Reneco, Abu Dhabi who have a vast experience in breeding the related Houbara and Arabian Bustards in captivity.

Some of the success achieved under the Programme includes the following:

- i. Collection of the nine eggs of GIBs from wild & hatching at the facility.
- ii. Sterilization of more than 800 dogs (another major threat to Great Indian Bustard) by WII in collaboration with HSI in priority habitat of Thar desert.
- iii. Construction of predator proof fences and active removal of Great Indian Bustard nest/egg predators from Great Indian Bustard enclosures.
- iv. Mapping of power lines falling in Great Indian Bustard habitat.
- v. Satellite tagging of Great Indian Bustard and monitoring of their activities for research on their morphological behavior etc.

(b) The details of funds provided by the Government to the State/ Union Territory Governments for protection and conservation of wildlife including Great Indian Bustards under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats" during the last three years and the current year, State/UT wise is at Annexure-1.

(c) The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) vide its order dated 04/09/2019 in O.A. No. 385 /2019 in the matter of Centre for Wildlife and Environment Litigation (CWEL) Vs. Union of India & Ors., has constituted a Joint committee comprising the following officials:-

- (i) Director General of Forest, MoEF&CC- **Chairperson**
- (ii) Additional Director-General of Forest (Wildlife), MoEF&CC-
Member Secretary
- (iii) Nominees of Ministry of Power, Govt. of India.
- (iv) Nominees of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India.
- (v) Nominees of Energy Departments of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

The mandate of the committee is to form a time-bound action plan within two months on the recommendations of the WII report mentioned in the NGT order dated 04/09/2019. Two meetings of the Committee have taken place.

- (d) The Ministry has provided funds to the following State/ Union Territory Governments for the protection and conservation of Great Indian Bustards under the 'Species Recovery Programme' of Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Development of Wildlife Habitats":

(Rs. In lakh)					
Name of State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Maharashtra	110.63		135.85	87.81	0
Rajasthan	65.36	121.64	121.387	0	0
Karnataka	0	0	0	0	82.58

- (e) Steps taken by the Government for protection of endangered animals and birds in the country including Great Indian Bustards are as given below:
- i. Legal protection has been provided against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
 - ii. The Great Indian Bustard is listed in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby, according them highest degree of legal protection from hunting.
 - iii. Protected Areas, viz, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves have been created all over the country as per the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to provide better protection to Wildlife including eagles.
 - iv. Financial and technical assistance is being extended to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, "Development of Wildlife Habitats", 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife.
 - v. Important habitats of Great Indian Bustards are designated as National Parks/ Sanctuaries for their better protection.
 - vi. The species has been identified for conservation efforts under the component 'Species Recovery Programme' of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - Development of Wildlife Habitat. Financial and technical assistance is provided to the State/ Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of

Wildlife Habitat for providing better protection to Great Indian Bustard and its habitat.

vii. In consultation with State Government, Wildlife Institute of India and international experts, a site for establishment of Conservation breeding Centre has been identified in Kota District, Rajasthan under the above mentioned project. Currently a facility with incubator, hatcher, chick rearing and housing for captive birds (upto 1 year age) has been set up at Sam, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan and is managed by WII Scientists, Rajasthan Forest Department with the technical assistance of the International Fund for Houbara Conservation and Reneco, Abu Dhabi who have a vast experience in breeding the related Houbara and Arabian Bustards in captivity.

viii. Ministry has also constituted a Task Force for suggesting Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of power transmission lines and other power transmission infrastructures on wildlife including the Great Indian Bustard.

ix. Ministry has requested the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Ministry of Power to direct the power supply agencies to implement the mitigation measures such as installation of bird diverters on power lines, undergrounding of power lines upto 33 KV, painting of vanes of wind turbines etc.

Annexure 1

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TP PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2060 REGARDING "PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE" BY SHRIMATI SANDHYA RAY, SHRI SELVAM G., SHRI K. NAVASKANI, SHRI REBATI TRIPURA, SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK, SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR DUE FOR REPLY ON 29.11.2019

Details of funds released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' during the last three years and current year are as below:

(Rs.in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as on 27.11.2019)
1	A& N Islands	118.49	141.934	191.00	132.64
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	75.00	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	256.8107	269.9348	344.42	414.14
4	Assam	0	275.827	265.32	164.26
5	Bihar	100.576	322.674	749.00	141.37573
6	Chandigarh	26.06514	26.065	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	278.9453	435.014	350.61	310.0318
8	Goa	0	85.9938	0	0
9	Gujarat	497.604	558.52	2232.00	0
10	Haryana	124.6572	181.4448	155.00	237.6078
11	Himachal Pradesh	280.31	237.4107	370.30	305.76554
12	Jammu & Kashmir	336.50626	577.9151	492.43	0
13	Jharkhand	0	95.607	50.51	93.96
14	Karnataka	325.52	427.89	653.00	418.56788
15	Kerala	1928.42	900.834	1293.40	574.916
16	Madhya Pradesh	322.265	1379.488	912.20	629.266
17	Maharashtra	497.35	808.0555	1031.20	553.333
18	Manipur	340.032	425.664	405.60	359.35
19	Meghalaya	55.23	114.061	312.00	0
20	Mizoram	1234.95	487.445	430.00	0
21	Nagaland	357.846	565.871	882.20	777.83
22	Odisha	279.65	342.937	499.00	558.474
23	Rajasthan	453.87878	622.421	585.00	679.56789
24	Sikkim	145.52	202.154	394.00	396.2745
25	Tamil Nadu	0	394.725	384.10	409.5048
26	Telangana	0	157.0833	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	250.956	386.968	119.81	426.611

28	Uttarakhand	545.30576	2979.361	1764.10	694.40627
29	West Bengal	237.66	657.992	960.60	800.61055
30	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
31	Lakshadweep	0	6.71	46.30	136.792
32	Delhi	0	0	551.90	0
33	WII, Dehradun- (Uttarakhand)	0	932.00	0	0
33	Tripura	0	0	0	90.31679
	TOTAL	8994.54814	15000.00	16500.00	9305.60155

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 268
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06-12-2019

Conservation of Environment

*268. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the projects being run by the Government for conservation of environment in the country along with the amount of funds spent on the said projects during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the number of trees is declining in the country with each passing year and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to increase the number of trees in the States which have less number of trees and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the specific efforts made by the Government for conservation of environment in metropolitan cities?

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 268 BY SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA REGARDING 'CONSERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT' DUE FOR REPLY ON 06-12-2019.

- (a) The Government is implementing various Centrally Sponsored Umbrella schemes namely National Mission for a Green India, Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Conservation of Natural Resources & Ecosystems, National River Conservation Programme and Compensatory Afforestation Programme of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). A sum of Rs. 11,254.00 crores (including Rs. 8,562.73 crores under CAMPA) have been released by MoEF&CC during the last three years i.e. 2016-17 to 2018-19 to conserve environment. The State wise details of funds spent under various schemes/programmes is placed at **Annexure-A**.
- (b) As per the India State of Forest Report (ISFR), 2017, there has been an increase of 1243 sq. km in the tree cover on the country as compared to ISFR, 2015. This is mainly attributed to large scale plantation by different Government and private agencies and farmers outside forest area. Tree cover of the country as per ISFR, 2013, 2015 and 2017 are 91,266 sq. km (2.78% of Geographical Area), 92,572 sq. km (2.82% of Geographical Area) and 93,815 sq. km (2.85% of Geographical Area) respectively. This shows an increasing trend of tree cover in the country. Government's policy is to ensure that more trees are planted than trees removed for any public or utility projects.
- (c) National Forestry Policy, 1988 envisages a national goal to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover. However, the actual number of trees planted is dependent on the Annual Plan of Operation finalized by the individual State Government based on their own planning for each financial year. To achieve this goal, afforestation programmes are being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and States/UTs Schemes/Plan.
- (d) Government of India has adequate policies/programmes and initiatives for conservation of environment in Cities like Nagar Van Yojana, National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna (PMUY), National Solar Mission, Smart Cities Mission, Green Highway Policy, National Green Aviation Policy, National Water Mission, Jal Jeevan Mission, Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Swachh Bharat Mission and National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) with a vision for providing wholesome living environment, and contributing to smart, clean, green and sustainable cities for healthy and happy citizens.

ANNEXURE-A

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 268 BY SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA REGARDING 'CONSERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT' DUE FOR REPLY ON 06-12-2019.

The State wise details of funds spent under Name of the Umbrella Scheme: National Mission for a Green India

Rs. in Crore

Name of the Umbrella Scheme: National Mission for a Green India				
Sl. No.	State/UTs	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andhra Pradesh	2.3829	3.8096	11.6497
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1.8134	1.8807	0.8908
3	Assam	-	-	1.5079
4	Bihar	3.0638	4.977	0.5717
5	Chhattisgarh	27.26508	23.49192	14.2254
6	Delhi	0.5	0.3	-
7	Gujarat	5.5826	0.75	0.9216
8	Haryana	44.391	3.4606	-
9	Himachal Pradesh	3.3136	4.492	2.9245
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0.9561	7.954	-
11	Jharkhand	1.9963	1.05	1.0784
12	Karnataka	10.22803	5.14344	14.35779
13	Kerala	1.6365	2.3453	2.7957
14	Madhya Pradesh	6.808	10.418	38.2266
15	Maharashtra	8.4871	9.9408	33.50728
16	Manipur	10.28305	11.81059	11.57012
17	Meghalaya	1.2657	2.6925	1.8738
18	Mizoram	17.9359	2.67	31.25984
19	Nagaland	6.9051	6.7738	7.2376
20	Odisha	8.67104	6.57937	20.44865
21	Punjab	-	6.9673	-
22	Rajasthan	1.7422	2.4491	2.94074
23	Sikkim	6.292	1.4859	9.3062
24	Tamil Nadu	2.3064	1.05	2.0707
25	Telangana	-	1.05	-
26	Tripura	1.9076	5.597	1.0973
27	Uttar Pradesh	3.9422	1.4209	1.3281
30	Uttarakhand	3.0403	5.0424	6.9652
31	West Bengal	0.9283	0.75	0.5414
32	Goa	-	-	0.8783
32	Puducherry	-	0.3	0.4984
Total		183.6442	136.65252	220.67372

Note: 'National Mission for a Green India' is an umbrella scheme containing scheme namely Green India Mission, National Afforestation Programme and Intensification of Forest Management. From 2018-19, Intensification of Forest Management scheme is renamed as Forest Fire Prevention and Management.

The State wise details of funds spent under Ad-hoc CAMPA

Sl. No.	State/UT	Rs. in Crore		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	1.33	1.56
2	Andhra Pradesh	89.00	97.00	104.47
3	Arunachal Pradesh	150.00	-	354.15
4	Assam	30.00	70.00	45.84
5	Bihar	33.00	30.31	46.62
6	Chandigarh	1.00	1.13	1.27
7	Chhattisgarh	280.00	-	-
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-
9	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
10	Delhi	4.00	-	-
11	Goa	-	-	-
12	Gujarat	99.00	27.00	212.66
13	Haryana	18.00	80.00	144.20
14	Himachal Pradesh	150.62	120.00	132.52
15	Jammu & Kashmir	102.00	69.00	-
16	Jharkhand	149.00	234.00	286.25
17	Karnataka	85.12	86.00	101.40
18	Kerala	-	8.00	14.61
19	Lakshdweep	-	-	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	140.00	200.00	268.76
21	Maharashtra	205.00	199.00	225.00
22	Manipur	15.00	29.50	24.85
23	Meghalaya	-	7.00	-
24	Mizoram	7.73	6.85	8.30
25	Nagaland	-	-	-
26	Odisha	426.00	509.00	554.00
27	Puducherry	-	-	-
28	Punjab	66.00	64.00	79.20
29	Rajasthan	148.06	179.00	182.03
30	Sikkim	9.00	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	9.00	12.68	7.00
32	Telangana	117.00	127.00	237.38
33	Tripura	12.00	7.10	16.70
34	Uttar Pradesh	97.00	144.00	150.60
35	Uttarakhand	170.71	96.00	303.00
36	West Bengal	21.00	-	21.22
	Total	2,634.24	2,404.90	3,523.59

The State wise details of funds spent under various other Umbrella Scheme

Rs. in Crore

S. No.	Name of Umbrella Scheme	Name of Scheme	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Integrated Development of Wild Life Habitats	Integrated Development of Wild Life Habitats	448.94	0.00	0.00
2		Project Tiger	-	345.00	323.17
3		Project Elephant	-	24.19	29.12
4		Development of Wild Life Habitats	-	149.28	157.13
5	Conservation Of Natural Resources And Ecosystem	Conservation Of Natural Resources And Ecosystem	94.58	-	-
6		Conservation Of Aquatic Ecosystems	-	55.80	63.70
7		Biodiversity Conservation	-	22.19	11.90
8		Conservation Of Corals And Mangroves	-	13.15	-
9	National River Conservation Program	National River Conservation Program	97.40	171.75	143.00
		Total	640.92	781.36	728.02

(Q.268)

श्री अनिल फिरोजिया : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मीडिया में रिपोर्टें आ रही हैं कि मरुस्थलीकरण को नियंत्रित करने के लिए पानीपत से पोरबंदर तक 1400 किलोमीटर जंगल की दीवार बनाने की योजना बनाई जा रही है।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने ऐसी वन दीवार के लिए योजना बनाई है? ऐसे वन आवरण की कार्बन अवशोषण क्षमता क्या होगी?

माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मेरा एक और प्रश्न है।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप एक साथ दो प्रश्न पूछ लीजिए।

✓ **श्री अनिल फिरोजिया :** मेरे अतारांकित प्रश्न के अनुसार यह पता चला है कि चंबल नदी में ग्रासिम इंडस्ट्रीज़ प्रतिदिन 11 लाख लीटर उपचारित अपशिष्ट का उत्सर्जन कर रही है। क्या ग्रासिम इंडस्ट्रीज़ में एसएफडी ने बैंक गारंटी के साथ समयबद्ध कार्य योजना प्रस्तुत की है, अथवा नहीं? यदि नहीं तो क्या प्रस्तावित कार्य योजना के अनुसार शून्य निर्वहन जनवरी, 2021 को या उससे पहले उद्योगों द्वारा शर्त प्राप्त की जाएगी? क्या सरकार ने ऐसे उद्योगों के लिए कोई जुर्माना तय किया है? यदि वे प्रस्तावित कार्य योजना का पालन करने में विफल रहते हैं तो उन पर क्या कार्रवाई की जाएगी?

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, दोनों प्रश्न महत्वपूर्ण हैं। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ, पोरबंदर से हरियाणा तक वन दीवार की बात कही गई है, इसके लिए प्रपोजल तैयार हो रहा है। यह अभी तैयार नहीं हुआ है।

एक अच्छी खबर है कि देश में पिछले पांच सालों में जंगल में और बाहर भी ट्री कवर 13,000 वर्ग किलोमीटर बढ़ा है। यह अच्छी खबर है। दुनिया में केवल दो-तीन देशों में ही ग्रीन कवर बढ़ा है। इसमें भारत का भी नंबर है, यह हम सबको अच्छा लगना चाहिए।

महोदय, विकास के लिए कभी-कभी पेड़ रिमूव करने पड़ते हैं, इसलिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्लांटेशन करते हैं। अगर कहीं एक पेड़ रिमूव हुआ तो उसके एवज में दस पेड़ लगते हैं, बढ़ते हैं, हमने इसकी व्यवस्था की है। कैम्पा, कम्पेनसेटरी एफोरेस्टेशन में हम ऐसा करने जा रहे हैं कि अगर एक प्रोजेक्ट है और उसके लिए इतने पेड़ रिमूव किए हैं, तो दूसरा स्थान होगा जहां कम्पेनसेटरी एफोरेस्टेशन होगा। इन दोनों की डिटेल्स पब्लिक डोमेन में रहेगी और हर साल उस वैकल्पिक जंगल की कितनी बढ़ोतरी हो रही है, सब देख सकेंगे। दूसरा सवाल आपने ग्रासिम इंडस्ट्रीज के बारे में पूछा है। उसके लिए हम एक विशेष दल को वहां भेजकर स्थिति का जायजा लेंगे और आवश्यक निर्णय करेंगे।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: यह क्वेश्चन तो आपका था। आप तो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नेता हो गए। उज्जैन से पोरबन्दर तक पहुंच गए।

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN : Sir, in regard to Mr. Gaurav Gogoi's Q. No 262, the Hon. Minister has submitted a detailed list.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: यदि आप प्रश्न 268 पूछना चाहते हैं तो पूछिए।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN : Sir, this is related to the answer to this Question.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: क्वेश्चन 262 के बारे में मत पूछिए।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन : सर, वह क्वेश्चन नहीं है।

Sir, 102 cities have already been identified in 23 States and the National Conservation Programme is there. My specific question to the hon. Minister is whether any fund has been allocated under this programme in these 102 cities.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Every city has a specific pollution mix and pollution problem. The basic pollution causes are vehicular pollution, dust pollution, and construction-demolition waste. Simultaneously, there are waste management and biological fires as well as very importantly, industrial pollution.

So, we have asked all cities to draw their own city-specific plans. To prepare that plan, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 10 crore each to million-plus population cities, and likewise other amount for lesser number of cities. But 102 cities have been selected in this programme.

The hon. Member comes from Kerala. As he must be knowing, many cities are very good in Kerala and there is no issue of pollution. So, there, we will not giving any funds but at other places, we are giving it.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that there is going to be a lot of tree plantation. We welcome it. But last week, in one of his answers, he had spoken about mangrove forest also. In Tamil Nadu, especially Ennore Creek area and Pulicat Wetlands, because of the port expansion activities, nearly 2,000 acres of land is being affected. The Ennore Creek is being taken over by the Port Authorities for expansion of the

port. But this puts nearly 10,00,000 people in the city of Chennai at the risk of flooding.

So, what is the Minister's reply to this question? Thank you.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, Shrimati Kanimozhi's question is very specific one, relating to Pulicat and Ennore. I will definitely give her answer, in detail, in a separate communication. But let me tell her that mangroves are also increasing, and at the same time, when we sanction removal of mangroves from one area for a very essential development, we also ask them to plant in the ratio of 1:3 times of mangroves. We are succeeding here. The total mangrove cover of India is increasing.

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA : Sir, I know that the hon. Minister has given a reply for plantation of trees; and the Government is spending an amount of almost R. 220 crore every year for plantation of trees. Like in my State Meghalaya, we have seen that during planation, they plant small trees. But these small trees would get spoiled by animals; and during the winter, when the people burn fire, these trees would get spoiled.

So, would the hon. Minister allow the State Government that instead of planting small tress, they may acquire the existing forest? Would he sanction money for that? Instead of planting small tress where there is no guarantee that these trees would survive, fresh forests may be an option.

So, will the hon. Minister allow this in his guideless?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Actually, you cannot plant a very big tree because it is already existing. So, you have to plant a small sapling, and from there, it grows. But now, there are various methods by which eight to ten feet well-grown trees also can be planted, and then they grow up in a natural way. Then it grows up in a natural way. So, that is the area, and the State Forest Departments have been given concrete suggestions how to maintain the plantation and how to have a survival rate of more than 80 per cent to 90 per cent. That we have already discussed even in the Forest Ministers Meeting which was held last week.

DR. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR : Thank you, Sir. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this. Is he aware that the life expectancy at birth of Indians is being shortened for each of us by 4.3 years at the moment due to environmental pollution including water, air, and everything together? So, what is the Government and the Ministry doing to mitigate the effect of the environment pollution so that we do not lose these four years that each of us breathing today loses? Thank you, Sir.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: We in the Government have discussed a lot on pollution not only of Delhi but all over the country. I have explained how the Government is very proactively taking actions to mitigate the vehicular pollution, industrial pollution, the biomass pollution, and also the dust pollution. It is because these are the main four areas where we need action. We are already taking action. It is bearing fruits. That is one thing.

At the same time, let me clarify that such studies carried out by various institutes may not be based on first generation data. On a secondary data, they interpolate, extrapolate, and then come out with conclusions based on a model study. So, let us not create a fear psychosis among people because pollution problem is all over the globe. In Los Angeles, in European cities, everywhere, there is pollution due to different factors. But there is no direct correlation as per the studies we have conducted. The studies conducted in India have not shown a direct correlation of shortening of life because of pollution.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. D. Ravikumar – Not present.

Sushri S. Jothimani.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3084
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2019.

Poaching of Animals and Birds

3084. DR. BHARATIBEN:
DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:
SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there exists any helpline number to control crimes relating to illegal trade and poaching of animals and birds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a national helpline number and mobile task force for protection of animals and birds; and
- (d) if so, the detail thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a), (b) (c) and (d) Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change welcomes the suggestion of Hon'ble Members for setting up national helpline number and mobile task force for protection of animals and birds to control crimes relating to illegal trade and poaching of animals. Ministry would consider this suggestion of Hon'ble Members for better enforcement of wildlife crime.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1109
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2020

Ban on Methyl Isocyanate

1109. SHRI FEROUZE VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban Methyl isocyanate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of chemical accidents occurred in the chemical industry for the past three years;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to form a comprehensive law that governs the different aspects of chemical industries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to bring the National Chemical Policy, which has been pending since 2012 and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a)&(b) Methyl Isocyanate is 'regulated' under the provisions of Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 (MSIHC Rules, 1989) and the Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 (CAEPPR Rules, 1996). Therefore, no proposal to ban the chemical is under consideration of the Central Government.
- (c) Based on the information provided by the Chief Inspector of Factories (CIFs) of various State Governments/ Union Territories, 119 major/ minor chemical accidents had occurred in past 3 years.
- (d) To address the environmental pollution and safety related aspects, the establishment and operation of chemicals industries is regulated under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991. Further, in order to ensure proper management of chemicals in the country, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC) has decided to draft Chemical (Safety and Management) Rules under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. A Technical Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) to finalise the outline, scope, coverage and extent of proposed rules.

- (e) The DCPC has formulated a 'Vision Document 2024'. The initiatives included in this document and proposed actions are in line with the objectives of National Chemical Policy. The DCPC has also formulated the 'National Petrochemical Policy 2007'. DCPC has, accordingly, decided that there is no need for a separate National Chemical Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2660
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020

Soil Erosion at River Banks

2660. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISRA TENI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme to encourage people in the country for afforestation to stop soil erosion at river banks due to incessant floods every year;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to tackle soil erosion during the last three years and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the approximate area of such lands earmarked and targets envisaged to prevent soil erosion during the next financial year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) to (c): As per information received from Ministry of Jal Shakti, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under the Namami Gange Programme is implementing "Forestry Interventions in Ganga" project as per the Detailed project report (DPR) prepared by Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun. The DPR has projected site-specific plantation along the banks of river Ganga and its tributaries in the five States namely Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal in over 1.34 lakh hectares of area. The DPR provides 43 numbers of plantation models in four major heads viz. Natural landscape, Agricultural landscape, Urban landscape and Conservation intervention which includes soil and water conservation. During the financial year 2016 to 2020, plantation over 26,764 ha. Land has been carried out under Namami Gange scheme by the five Ganga bank state forest departments, for which NMCG has funded Rs. 337.22 crore.

In addition, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has assigned a technical study to ICFRE to assess the need of interventions and measures to reduce soil erosion, improve quality of forests, enhance soil moisture regime to augment continuous supply of water to the streams, etc. along the river landscape of 13 major Indian rivers and prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for forestry mediation for rejuvenation of the river basins. The study includes Beas, Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Sutlej, Loni, Brahmaputra, Yamuna, Mahanadi, Narmada, Krishna, Godavari and Cauvery rivers.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3222
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/03/2020

Planting of Trees

3222.MS. CHANDRANI MURMU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make the rivers, nallahs, etc. green by planting trees on both side embankments of the rivers, nallahs etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) to (c) The National Forest Policy (NFP), 1988, encourages planting of trees on different types of lands including lands alongside rivers, and streams and canals. To increase and improve the forest and tree cover in the country, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has taken several initiatives. These include Centrally Sponsored Schemes, such as National Afforestation Programme, National Mission for Green India and Development of Wildlife Habitats. Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 also contain provisions for taking up assisted natural regeneration, artificial regeneration and silvicultural operations in forest, which contribute to increase in forest cover. Afforestation and tree planting activities, including in non-forest areas, are also taken up under various programme/funding sources of other Ministries of Government of India such as, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and under the schemes/plans of States and Union Territories and also by corporate bodies, public institutions, civil society/NGOs public sector undertakings, etc.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, National Mission of Clean Ganga (NMCG) is implementing the Namami Gange Programme that includes plantation along the banks of river Ganga and its tributaries in five states, namely Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. Plantation of 26,764 ha has been undertaken between the period 2016 and 2020 so far under the programme and NMCG has provided Rs. 337.22 crore for the same. In addition, MoEF&CC has assigned a technical study to ICFRE to assess the need of interventions and to suggest plantation models, measures to reduce soil erosion, improve quality of forests, enhance soil moisture regime, to augment continuous supply of water to the streams, etc. along the river landscape of 13 major Indian rivers and prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for forestry mediation for rejuvenation of the river basins. The study includes Beas, Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Sutlej, Luni, Brahmaputra, Yamuna, Mahanadi, Narmada, Krishna, Godavari and Cauvery rivers.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 381
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2020

Environmental Clearance for Irrigation Projects

*381. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY &
SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether small and medium irrigation projects from various States are pending with the Union Government for want of environmental/forest clearance;
- (b) if so, the details of such pending projects, project and State/UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra;
- (c) the reasons for delay in granting environmental/forest clearance along with the details of projects sanctioned during the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the time since when the above mentioned irrigation projects are under consideration of the Union Government; and
- (e) the other steps taken/proposed by the Government to clear these pending projects?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARAS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *381 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20.03.2020 REGARDING "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS" BY SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY & SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE

(a)

Yes, Sir

(b) to (d)

I. There is no proposal pending for Small and Medium Irrigation Projects with the Ministry for approval under EIA Notification, 2006. Details of Small and Medium Irrigation projects (CCA: less than 10, 000 ha) fulfilling General Condition submitted to the Ministry and pending at Central level, along with reason for delay are tabulated below:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of the Project	Date of Submission	Reasons for delay
1.	Maharashtra	Nardave Medium Irrigation Project (CCA: 9,978 ha) at Dist.: Sindhudurg, Maharashtra	04.01.2019	Non submission of information from Project Proponent.
2.	Telangana	Channaka-Korata (Rudha) Barrage on Penganga River- Interstate Irrigation Project, (CCA: 6677.00 ha), Adilabad district of Telangana	16.04.2019	Non submission of Stage I Forest Clearance (FC) for the forestland involved in the State of Maharashtra by the Project Proponent.
3.	Telangana	Modikunta Vagu Irrigation Project (CCA: 5,500 ha) in Jayashankar Bhoopalpally District of Telangana	16.12.2019	Non submission of information from Project Proponent.
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Satdharu Medium Irrigation Project (CCA: 7,555 ha) in District Damoh	18.05.2019	Non submission of information from Project Proponent.
5.	Odisha	Khairibhandan Barrage Irrigation Project (CCA: 6,950 ha) of Dept. of Water Resources, Govt. of Odisha in Mayurbhanj	23.08.2019	Non submission of information from Project Proponent.

		District		
6.	Andhra Pradesh	No Small and Medium Irrigation projects are pending at Central level for grant Environmental Clearance.		

II. All Irrigation Projects granted Environmental Clearance (EC) by the MoEF&CC after the recommendation of the EAC at Central level in last one year:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of the Project	Date of EC granted
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Parbati (Rinsi) Major Irrigation Project (CCA: 48,000 ha) in Rajgarh district of Madhya Pradesh by Water Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	11.12.2019
2.	Uttarakhand	Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project (CCA: 57,065 ha) by Irrigation Department, Uttarakhand	13.12.2019
3.	Bihar	Kosi-Mechi Intrastate link project (CCA: 2,14,812 ha) (Construction of 76.20 km long canal on the existing barrage beyond eastern Kosi main canal (41.30 km) for irrigation purpose under Kosi- Mechi intrastate link project in the state of Bihar by M/s. Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar	01.08.2019
4.	Odisha	Jeera Irrigation Project (CCA: 4,800 ha) in the Bargarh District, Odisha by M/s Department of Water Resources, Government of Odisha	21.05.2019
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Majhgaon Medium Irrigation project (CCA: 9,900 ha) in Panna District of Madhya Pradesh by Water Resources Department, Madhya Pradesh	08.04.2019
6.	Telangana	Sita Rama Irrigation Project (CCA: 1,33,085 ha), district Bhadradi Kothagudem, Telangana	07.01.2019
7.	Telangana	Kaleswaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (CCA: 18,211 ha) near Kannepally village, Mahadevpur Mandal, Jayashankar Bhoopalpally district, Telangana	25.02.2020

III. There is no proposal pending with the Ministry for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. List of the proposals related to small and medium irrigation, which have been received and are under consideration of the Ministry is annexed at **Annexure I.**

IV. All the proposals including small and medium irrigation projects are dealt as per the procedure and norms under Forest (Conservation) Rules and Guidelines. The details of the approval accorded under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and for non-forestry use is annexed at **Annexure II.**

(e)

Ministry of Environment, forest and Climate Change has taken several steps to expedite the issuance of environmental clearance, inter alia, including: -

1. Launching of Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System named PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) for a complete online, expeditious and transparent system for environment, forest, wildlife and CRZ clearances in the country;
2. Standardization of Terms of Reference.
3. Validity of ToR is increased from four years to five years in one go.
4. Standardization of Environmental Clearance conditions.
5. Provision of alert through SMS to the project proponents.
6. Delegation of more projects to the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority.
7. Standardization of Forms for application.

Annexure-I

List of Irrigation proposals under consideration with UoI for forest clearance		
Sl. No.	Name of the project	State
1.	Banda Irrigation Project, Water Resource Department, Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh
2.	C/o Bali Chowki and Multi Village Group Piped Water Supply Scheme For Part of Seraj Block of Mandi District. (H.P.).	Himachal Pradesh
3.	Construction of Somb Saraswati Barrage on River Somb.	Haryana
4.	Forest Land proposed to be diverted For Construction of Kanhar Irrigation Project for area of 127.1637 ha in Sonebhadra District (UP).	Uttar Pradesh
5.	Jawar Micro Lift Irrigation Scheme	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Ammadad Tank	Chhattisgarh
7.	Uma Barrage	Chhattisgarh
8.	Narmada-Jhabua-Petlawad-Thandla-Sardarpur Micro Lift Irrigation Scheme	Madhya Pradesh
9.	Satdharu Medium Tank Project	Madhya Pradesh
10.	Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation Project	Odisha
11.	ISPKalisindh Link Project Phase-I	Madhya Pradesh

Annexure II

Statement showing State-wise Final Approval accorded in current year for non-forestry purpose under FC Act, 1980			
Category: All Categories		During the Period: 01/01/2019 to 16/03/2020	
Case Status: APPROVED			
S. No.	States/UTs	No. of Cases	Area Approved (in ha)
1	Andhra Pradesh	5	196.933
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	4577.84
3	ASSAM	1	1.00
4	Bihar	33	461.79
5	CHHATTISGARH	1	207.99
6	GOA	1	0.93
7	Gujarat	258	1719.66
8	Haryana	389	645.86
9	Himachal Pradesh	78	671.93
10	Jharkhand	17	933.89
11	Karnataka	17	221.67
12	Kerala	2	0.26
13	Madhya Pradesh	271	2139.22
14	Maharashtra	3	183.79
15	Manipur	1	24.50
16	Meghalaya	2	0.03
17	Mizoram	3	46.48
18	Orissa	20	5171.44
19	Punjab	186	439.80
20	Rajasthan	47	474.84
21	Tamil Nadu	8	28.29
22	Telangana	29	2113.18
23	Tripura	11	266.67
24	Uttar Pradesh	45	82.08
25	Uttarakhand	93	256.55
26	West Bengal	2	102.33
27	Grand Total	1524	20968.94
28	Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00
29	Uttarakhand	60	171.64
30	West Bengal	3	124.87
Grand Total		574	7576.61

Note: There was no diversion of forestland in respect of remaining six States /UTs

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
NINTH SITTING
(06.06.2022)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours in Committee Room No. '2', Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihal Chand
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Santosh Pandey
6. Shri M.K. Raghavan

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.L. Singh - Deputy Secretary
2. Shri Vineeta Sachdeva - Under Secretary

WITNESSES

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

1. Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary (EF&CC)
2. Shri Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF & SS
3. Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Additional Secretary
4. Shri Tanmay Kumar, Additional Secretary
5. Mrs. Richa Sharma, Additional Secretary
6. Shri S.P. Yadav, ADG (FC)
7. Shri Bivash Ranjan, ADG (WL)
8. Shri Jigmet Takpa, Joint Secretary
9. Shri Sujit Kumar Bajpayee, Joint Secretary

Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation)

1. Shri Sanjay Awasthy, Joint Secretary
2. Shri Bidhu Bhushan Barman, Scientist G
3. Shri Anjani Prasad Singh, Scientist E

Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals & Petro-Chemicals)

1. Shri K. K. Srivastava, Director

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Shri P.K. Haldar - Under Secretary

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting has been convened to (i) consider 25 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 34 pending Assurances; and (ii) take oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding pending Assurances.

XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

3. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs were ushered in. The Chairperson welcomed the witnesses to the sitting of the Committee and drew their attention to confidentiality of the deliberations till the Reports are presented to the House. The Committee then took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding pending Assurances. Considering the huge pendency of a number of Assurances of the Ministry for a long time, the Chairperson asked the representatives to give an overview of the pending Assurances and also apprise the Committee about the internal mechanism, system of monitoring and review of pending Assurances in the Ministry.

4. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, briefed the Committee about the review meetings being held for implementation of pending Assurances. The Chairperson asked the representatives of the Ministry to furnish the Minutes of the review meetings for monitoring of pending Assurances.

5. The Members then raised queries and sought clarifications on the pending Assurances. The witnesses responded to the queries and also provided clarifications. As some queries required detailed reply and inputs from various quarters, the Chairperson asked the witnesses to furnish written replies on the same in due course.

6. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for deposing before the Committee and furnishing valuable information on the queries raised and clarifications sought by them.

The witnesses, then, withdrew.

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX

Annexure-III

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2021-2022) LOK SABHA

Statement of pending/implemented Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to be discussed during oral evidence on 06.06.2022.

S.No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Subject
1. @	USQ No. 1175 dated 08.08.2011	River Zone Control Act
2. @	USQ No. 7245 dated 21.05.2012	River Regulation Area
3. @	USQ No. 3688 dated 17.12.2012	River Regulatory Zone
4.	USQ No. 415 dated 01.12.2015	Regulation of Hunting
5. @	SQ No. 224 dated 15.12.2015 (Supplementary by Dr. Manoj Rajoria, M.P.)	Coastal Management
6.	USQ No. 1587 dated 25.07.2017	Implementation of Forest Policy
7. #	USQ No. 847 dated 14.12.2018	Eco-Sensitive Areas of Western Ghats
8. #	USQ No. 1051 dated 08.02.2019	Eco Sensitive Areas
9. #	USQ No. 1122 dated 08.02.2019	Conservation of Western Ghats
10.	USQ No. 80 dated 21.06.2019	Forest based Projects

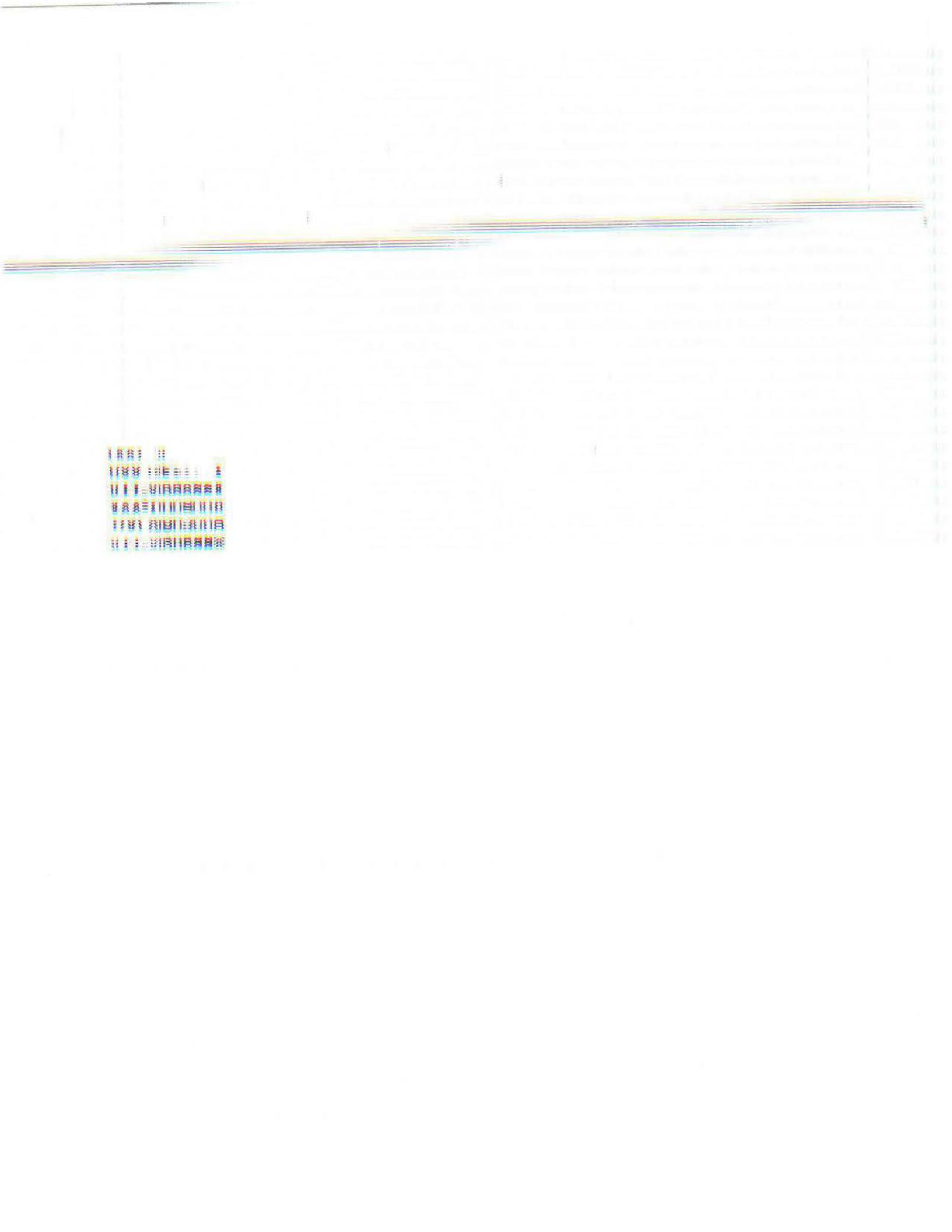
@ Same Subjects

Same Subjects

11.	SQ No. 296 dated 12.07.2019	Amendment in Biological Diversity Act, 2002
12.	USQ No. 4538 dated 19.07.2019	Amendment in EIA Notification
13.	SQ No. 82 dated 22.11.2019 (Supplementary by Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, M.P.)	Recycling of Plastics
14.\$	USQ No. 1042 dated 22.11.2019	Great Indian Bustard
15.\$	USQ No. 2060 dated 29.11.2019	Protection and Conservation of Wildlife
16.	SQ No. 268 dated 06.12.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Anil Firojiya, M.P.)	Conservation of Environment
17.	USQ No. 3084 dated 06.12.2019	Poaching of Animals and Birds
18.	USQ No. 1109 dated 07.02.2020	Ban on Methyl Isocyanate
19.%	USQ No. 2660 dated 06.03.2020	Soil Erosion at River Banks
20.%	USQ No. 3222 dated 13.03.2020	Planting of Trees
21.	SQ No. 381 dated 20.03.2020	Environmental Clearance for Irrigation Projects

\$ Same Subjects

% Same Subjects



MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2022-2023)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SECOND SITTING
(20.12.2022)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1545 hours in Room No. 216 (Chairperson's Chamber) 'B' Block, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Khagen Murmu
5. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
6. Shri M.K. Raghavan
7. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu

Secretariat

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash | - Director |
| 3. Shri Mahesh Chand Gupta | - Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva | - Under Secretary |

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following five (05) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i) Draft Seventy-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (ii) Draft Seventy-Fifth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (iii) Draft Seventy-Sixth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';

- (iv) Draft Seventy-Seventh Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)'; and
- (v) Draft Seventy-Eighth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change'.

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the ongoing session.

The Committee then adjourned.

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2021 - 2022)**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Prof. Sougata Ray **
3. Shri Nihal Chand
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushlendra Kumar
8. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
9. Shri Santosh Pandey
10. Shri M.K. Raghavan
11. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
12. Dr. Bharatiben D. Shiyal
13. Shri Indra Hang Subba
14. Smt. Supriya Sule
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Director |
| 3. Shri M.C. Gupta | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Shri Vineeta Sachdeva | - | Under Secretary |

* The Committee has been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2021 vide Para No. 3202 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 18 October, 2021

** Nominated to the Committee vide Para No 4711 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 06 June, 2022 vice Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay resigned on 01 June, 2022