

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the assistance being provided to the local people by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board has commenced continuous monitoring of ambient air quality at the blow out site. The details are as below:

- (a) Noise level ranges from 50 dBA to 115 dBA within a radius of 500 metres of the blow out site.
- (b) Hydrocarbons range from 1.0 to 8.0 micrograms per cubic meter.
- (c) Oxides of Nitrogen range from 10.0 to 225.0 micrograms per cubic meter.
- (d) Oxides of Sulphur range from 8.0 to 20.0 micrograms per cubic meter.
- (e) Particulate matter ranges from 65.0 to 116.0 micrograms per cubic meter.
- (f) Carbon Monoxide ranges from 700 to 7000 micrograms per cubic meter.

(c) The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been asked to take the following steps:

1. Continuous on site monitoring for gases like carbon monoxide and hydrogen sulphide and to take appropriate precautionary measures to prevent any possible damage to the environment and human habitation in the area.
2. Appropriate measures right now to prevent any possible adverse affects on the environment once the fire is brought under control.
3. Necessary measures for preventing water pollution and to arrange for regular water quality monitoring in the surrounding areas.

(d) As reported by Oil and Natural Gas Commission there is no injury or casualty either to ONGC personnel or to the villagers nearby. As a precautionary measure immediately after the fire, district authorities have evacuated people who wanted to leave from the area, including from the villages of Bodasakurru, Peruru, Gopayalanka, Devarlanka, Mamidithota, Kadaripadu and Ventrikona.

[Translation]

Soil Erosion

119. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether soil-erosion has been taking place on large scale in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of soil-erosion in each State;

(c) the percentage of land affected by the soil-erosion; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government so far to check soil-erosion alongwith the achievements made therefrom, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) A number of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been launched by the Central Government through Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment & Forests. Projects to check soil erosion have also been undertaken with the help of World Bank and European Economic Community (EEC). Apart from above, State Governments are also implementing various soil conservation programmes through their regular State Sector Programme. State-wise achievements may be seen in the statement referred to in (b) and (c) above.

Statement

(Area in lakh ha.)

S. No.	State/UTS.	Geographical Area	Area affected by Soil Erosion*	%age of Area affected by soil erosion	Area treated till the end of 1993-94 (Estimated)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	276.82	115.02	41.55	15.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83.58	24.44	29.24	0.37
3.	Assam	78.52	22.17	28.23	3.51
4.	Bihar	173.88	42.60	24.50	16.51
5.	Gujarat	195.98	99.46	50.75	30.35
6.	Haryana	44.22	15.91	35.98	7.86
7.	Himachal Pradesh	55.67	19.14	34.38	4.38
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	222.24	8.83	3.73	3.62
9.	Karnataka	191.77	109.89	57.30	40.16
10.	Kerala	38.87	17.57	45.20	5.68
11.	Madhya Pradesh	442.84	196.10	44.28	58.10

S. No.	State/UTS.	Geographical Area	Area affected by Soil Erosion*	%age of Area affected by soil erosion	Area treated till the end of 1993-94 (Estimated)
12.	Maharashtra	307.76	191.81	62.32	111.13
13.	Manipur	22.36	3.74	16.73	1.36
14.	Meghalaya	22.49	8.37	37.22	1.39
15.	Mizoram	21.09	4.21	19.96	0.80
16.	Nagaland	16.53	4.05	24.50	1.24
17.	Orissa	155.78	45.78	29.39	12.51
18.	Punjab	50.36	10.17	20.00	10.10
19.	Rajasthan	342.21	199.02	58.16	25.45
20.	Sikkim	7.30	3.03	41.51	2.43
21.	Tamil Nadu	130.07	36.40	29.98	19.32
22.	Tripura	10.48	1.67	15.94	1.79
23.	Uttar Pradesh	294.41	71.10	24.75	44.28
24.	West Bengal	87.85	10.33	11.75	5.57
25.	Goa	3.70	2.00	54.05	0.19
26.	A & N Island	8.29	2.59	31.24	0.07
27.	Chandigarh	0.11	0.01	9.09	0.02
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.49	0.12	24.49	1.25
29.	Delhi	1.48	0.74	50.00	N
30.	Daman & Diu	0.11	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	0.03	—	—	0.03
32.	Pondicherry	0.49	0.03	6.12	0.12
Total:		3287.78	1266.20	38.51	425.36

N=Negligible (less than 1000 ha.)

* includes Water erosion.

[English]

Cancellation of Trains

120. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the passenger trains have been cancelled during July to December, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof, zonewise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to restore these trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Projects of Rajasthan

121. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects pertaining to the fresh lease and renewal of lease of mines in Rajasthan are

lying pending for want of the forest and environment clearance;

(b) the details of other developmental projects lying pending with the Government for environment as well forest clearance;

(c) since when these projects are lying pending and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to avoid inordinate delay in giving clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The names of the projects pertaining to the fresh lease and renewal of lease of mines, and other development projects in Rajasthan lying pending for forest and environment clearance alongwith details of pendency and reasons therefor are given in the attached statement;

(d) As and when a proposal is received with full details expeditious action is taken to finally decide the proposal.