

Statement-IV

1. Implementation of recommendation of Subramaniam Committee report on issue of prevention of poaching and trade in wildlife during IX Five Year Plan.
2. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
3. Setting up of a national Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
4. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with his Majesty's Governments of Nepal.
5. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
6. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.
7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
8. Eco-development programme has been taken up around the protected areas to win over the support of fringe dwellers to the cause of wildlife conservation. Seven Pilot Protected Areas have been chosen to implement intensive eco-development programme by international support.

Clearance for Installation of Kilns

*537. SHRI PRATAP SINGH SAINI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the installation of brick kilns on the cultivable land is spreading pollution;

(b) if so, the loss of total national agriculture production due to installation of kilns on the cultivable land;

(c) if so, the name of the authority which permits installation of the kilns on the cultivable land; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this

regard and the steps proposed to be taken to shift these kilns on the land unsuitable for agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The emissions from brick kilns may cause air pollution problems in the adjoining areas. The yields of wheat and rice crops grown in the fields adjacent to brick kilns have been reported to be adversely affected.

(b) No conclusive data on the loss of total national agricultural production due to installation of brick kilns on the cultivable land in the country is available.

(c) The local authorities and other concerned departments permit installation of the brick kilns.

(d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India have issued a notification on April 2, 1996 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1996 prescribing limits of particulate matter emissions and stack height regulations to control pollution from brick kilns.

Central Pollution Control Board has published a Comprehensive Industry Document in May, 1996, suggesting guidelines for location of brick kilns and adoption of pollution control measures for brick kilns.

Prices of Essential Commodities

*538. SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a trend of sharp increase in the prices of essential commodities such as wheat, rice, sugar, bread, milk, edible oils and various spices since 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and percentage of increase in 1996;

(c) the prices of said commodities from April, 1994 to 1997; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to control the prices of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the percentage variation in wholesale price index of essential commodities like wheat, rice, sugar, bread, milk, edible oils and spices for April, 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in attached