

- (iii) Important habitats of wild animals including Owls have been declared as Protected Areas.
- (iv) Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/Union Territory Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' of the Ministry for improved protection and conservation of wildlife and their habitats.
- (v) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been established to control illegal trade in wild life and its parts and products.

Impact of global warming on human body and agriculture

2048. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received any proposals from the State Government of Gujarat seeking funds for conducting detailed study about impact of global warming on human body and agriculture in the State;
- (b) if so, what further action has been taken by the Ministry; and
- (c) the details thereof and of the fund allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) As per information received from the Government of Gujarat, a proposal for financial assistance for the preparation of the State Action Plan on Climate Change is under preparation in the State Government. Central Government considers such proposals expeditiously for necessary technical and financial support as and when such proposals are received.

Mining lease of forest reserved land

2049. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has granted any mining lease of forest reserved land in the Yavatmal and Dongargaon regions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that mining applications forwarded to Ministry claims the land as barren and not reserved, despite the fact that land is still reserved as forest land;

(d) whether Government has received any complaints of irregularities in granting mining lease of these regions;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken/being taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No mining lease has been granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Yavatmal and Dongargaon regions during at least last ten years by the Ministry.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise.

(d) No complaint regarding irregularities in granting mining lease in Yavatmal and Dongargaon have been received by the Government.

(e) and (f) The question does not arise.

Foreign assistance for protection and development of forests

†2050. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that action plans regarding the protection and development of forests in the country are being implemented with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any complaint during the last year regarding corruption in the action plans being implemented for the protection and development of forests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Presently, there are 10 externally assisted (foreign assistance) projects under implementation in the various States of the country, including 1 Central Sector Project, with a total cost of Rs. 4840 crores. These projects are not specifically focusing on the protection and development of forests in the country but do have afforestation as one of the components, alongwith other need-based components. The brief details regarding these externally assisted projects under implementation are given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The Central Government has not received any complaint during the last year regarding corruption in the action plans so far.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.