

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b). There are several bodies appointed to advise the Government of India on how to preserve and protect the flora and fauna in the country. However, the Government have recently constituted a committee to look into the issues related to illegal trade in wild species. The composition and the terms of reference of the Committee are shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

STATEMENT

The Committee has a non-official Chairman with three other members including a Member Secretary. The Committee is required to visit various areas of wildlife significance in the country, discuss with field functionaries of related departments and others, examine the issues in detail and suggest ways and means to improve the existing control measures regarding illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products in the country. The Committee has been constituted by an Office Memorandum of 24.5.1994 and is expected to submit its report by 15.8.1994.

[*Translation*]

Management of Natural Calamities

*138. SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the present management of the Government to deal with the natural calamities ;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to set up any independent body to strengthen the present management and to make it more effective;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete measures taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Shri BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a). Under the existing arrangements, the State Governments undertake rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures in the event of natural calamities. This is financed by an annual Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the order of Rs. 804.00 crores, which is contributed by Government of India and the State Governments in the ratio of 3:1. Apart from contributing to the CRF, Government of India also supports the State Government's efforts by providing warning and forecasting systems and by helping in relief & rescue operations. There are also some Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes which help mitigate the impact of natural calamities.

(b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Paryanaran vahinis

*139. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :