

(b) the details of various schemes launched in Kerala for conservation of forests during the last three years;

(c) the achievement made so far under each scheme during each of the last three years; and

(d) the financial assistance provided under each scheme during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) :
(a) As per the State of Forest Report 1993, the Recorded Forest Area in the State of Kerala is 11,222 sq. km. and the actual forest cover is 10,336 sq km.

(b) to (d) . The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Public Sector Industries in Orissa

33. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the public sector industries in Orissa, particularly in Talcher-Angal region, functioning at present and have yet to be cleared from the environment point of view;

(b) the industries which have filed their environment impact study reports before the commencement;

(c) the industries which have complied to the conditions imposed by the Government; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against these industries for non-compliance of the directions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) :
(a) Nil .

(b) Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited has filed an environmental impact study report for setting up steel plant at Daitari, Orissa.

(c) and (d) . The compliance of environmental conditions imposed by the Government while approving the project is regularly monitored for ensuring effective implementation of the action plan submitted by the industries. These are required to be implemented by the project proponent in a phased manner.

Black Marketing of Kerosene Oil

34. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

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

(a) whether the officials of Indian Oil in league with the officials of Directorate of Consumer Goods and Civil Supplies are selling large quantity of subsidised kerosene meant for Public Distribution System in the black market at Calcutta and Durgapur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the kerosene is smuggled to Bangladesh in collusion with the officials; and

(d) the steps Government propose to check this practice and action taken against the guilty officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) to (d) . The Central Government makes only bulk allocation of kerosene oil to States/UTs for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The operational responsibility of ensuring distribution within the State/UT to the consumers is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. The States/UTs take action against blackmarketeers, hoarders, etc. under Central Acts like Essential Commodities Act and Control Orders issued thereunder and State-Acts and I.P.C. etc. The Central Government has been advising the States/UTs to take effective steps so that such malpractices do not occur. The schemes of blue dyeing of kerosene and delivered supply of kerosene to wholesalers have also been introduced in order to control diversion and malpractices in distribution of kerosene.

Blood Bank

35. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the malpractice, malfunctioning and corruption in blood banks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Government to set up a National Council of Blood Transfusion and similar bodies at the State level; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Instances such as paid donors posing as relative donors, bleeding the donors who are not fit for bleeding and issuing untested or infected blood for transfusion have been reported from time to time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government have initiated steps on the directions issued by the Supreme Court with regards to setting up of National and State Councils of Blood Transfusion.

[Translation]

Expired Medicines

36. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :