

[*Translation*]

Unauthorised cutting of Trees

867. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the unauthorised cutting of trees;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme to award punishment in such cases;

(c) the number of persons found cutting trees illegally during the last two years and the action taken against them; and

(d) the total area under social forestry in the country as on date and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to develop social forestry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Unauthorised cutting of trees is punishable under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the State Government have been taking action as per the provisions of the Act against the offenders.

(d) The total area covered under afforestation/tree planting activities including Social Forestry from 1990 to 1991 was 148.90 lakh hectares.

The steps proposed to be taken by the Government to develop Social Forestry are as under-

- (i) An area of 10.5 lac hectare is to be brought under forest cover by plantation during the year 1991-92;

(ii) 1500 million seedlings are proposed to be distributed under the Farm Forestry Programme in the year 1991-92;

(iii) The afforestation activities have been proposed to be expanded during the VIII Plan.

Steps taken to achieve health for all by 2000 A.D.

[*English*]

868. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target to achieve Health for all by 2000 A.D. is progressing according to schedule;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal of identifying all the persons and families in the country, Block-Wise and issue the card for better identification and follow up action; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (d). Broadly, the various programmes etc. for achieving the goal of Health for All by 2000 A.D. are progressing well; there if not proposal for issuing identification cards in this behalf.

Pollution by leather units in Kanpur

[*Translation*]

869. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had given direction in January, 1991 that the Leather units of Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh which are polluting the river Ganga by their effluent water, may be closed down or they should set up treatment plants; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in that direction so that pollution of Ganga water at Kanpur is checked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b). The Supreme Court has passed directions from time to time in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 3727/85, in the case of MC Mehta vs. Union of India and others, directing tanneries in Kanpur which have not set up Effluent Treatment Plants to set up primary Effluent Treatment Plants. In the direction dated 3.9.91, the Supreme Court had observed that 49 tanneries had not till then set up primary Effluent Treatment Plants. The District Magistrate and the UP Pollution Control Board were asked to take steps to close the tanneries and not to allow them to undertake any tanning operation till they set up primary treatment plants. As a result, all these tanneries were not allowed to undertake tanning operations. Subsequently, 16 tanneries out of the above mentioned 49 have set up the primary Effluent Treatment Plants and they have been allowed to carry on tanning operations.

[*Translation*]

New Zones and divisions in Railways

871. **SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VE-
NKATESWARALU:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry are considering a proposal to create some more zones and divisions;

(b) if so, the names of the places where those divisions and zones are being set up;

(c) the reasons for setting up of new divisions and zones; and

(d) the criteria adopted in setting up new divisions and zones and selecting headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) The Ministry is considering the creation of some zones but not divisions.

(b) No decision has been taken to set up any new zone.

(c) and (d). Railway Reforms Committee in its report had suggested creation of new zones keeping in view the workload of existing zones.

Demand of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers

[*English*]

872. **SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, "Plea for steps to resolve problems of Kendriya Vidyalaya's teachers" appearing in the Hindu (Delhi Edition) dated July 31, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and