

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the mechanism being adopted for the exchange information data between developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. For the reference year 1986, the study shows that there is a net sequestration of 5.4 million tonnes of carbon. The study has substantiated that the carbon emissions from forestry are nearly offset by carbon sequestration.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Forestry related data is collected by the Forestry Survey of India. Based on the information and data, inventories of carbon emissions are periodically prepared and updated.

(e) The information/data are freely exchanged among scientists through seminars, symposia, conferences and publications.

Export of Sandalwood

3523. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Southern States and various Sandalwood Exporters Associations have approached his Ministry to permit export of Sandalwood and Red Sandal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). On receipt of representation from the State Government of Tamilnadu and Karnataka and some Sandalwood Exporters Associations, Ministry of Environment & Forests had recommended to the Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce for one-time relaxation of the ban for allowing export of 1500 MT of Sandal heart wood chips, mixed chips and flakes and 500 MT of Sapwood Powder. The Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce has issued Public Notice Nos. 74 & 75 dated 8.12.1995 vide which heart wood chips, flakes of eight classes of sandalwood, sapwood, sandalwood dust and deoiled sandalwood spent dust has been allowed to be exported subject to the licensing.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested Ministry of Environment and Forests for recommending to the Ministry of Commerce one-time relaxation of ban on export of Red Sanders. The Andhra Pradesh State Forest Department has got the accumulated stock of 1675 MT of confiscated Red Sanders. They have proposed to export the same through Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation. The decision in this regard has not yet been taken.

"Toxic Waste Import by Hindustan Zinc Limited"

3524. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Hindustan Zinc Limited is using industrial toxic waste imported from OECD countries and dumping residues via land disposal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Hindustan Zinc Limited is a public sector company engaged in the production of primary zinc. It does not import toxic waste from OECD countries for any of their requirements.

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

Global Tiger Forum

3525. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had discussions with the Ambassadors of Tiger Range Countries to ratify a treaty to save Tigers in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of these countries thereto;

(c) whether a Global Tiger Forum has been initiated by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An informal get-together of the representatives, which included, *inter alia*, four Ambassadors, of twelve tiger range countries, viz., Bhutan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Korea (North), Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Russia, Thailand; Vietnam had taken place on 20.11.1995 in New Delhi to discuss the issues relating to the formal ratification of the proposed statutes of the Global Tiger Forum and joining the same by concerned countries. India, Bhutan and Myanmar are already members of the Forum. The general reaction from other tiger range countries was encouraging.

(c) to (e). No, Sir. The Global Tiger Forum was a result of consensus arrived by the representatives of some tiger range countries, N.G.Os. International