

- (1) Laboratory study on municipal waste samples obtained from NDMC processing plant has been completed.
- (2) Specifications for the construction of test section have been developed.
- (3) The work regarding the construction of test sections using Municipal wastes and other local soil and aggregates in collaboration with MCD has been initiated.

Ganga Action Plan

1374. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Supreme Court in a recent verdict has asked his Ministry to instruct the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority to undertake feasibility studies for the pollution abatement in 36 towns of West Bengal under the Second Phase of the Ganga Action Plan; and

(b) if so, the follow-up action taken by his Ministry in consultation with the State Government in following a more wholistic approach to clean the Ganga?

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

(b) As a follow-up action, three meetings on 26.12.1995, 8.1.1996 and 20.2.1996 respectively were held with the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) to expedite the process of survey and investigations of pollution generated from these 36 towns and preparation of pre-feasibility reports. The scheme is to be implemented on shared cost between the Central and the West Bengal Government on equal basis. An amount of Rs. 27 lakhs has also been sanctioned and released to the CMDA in January, 1996 for this purpose.

Incidence of Cancer

[Translation]

1375. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to include the cancer in the specified list of diseases in view of the increasing incidence of cancer in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which Government is likely to announce its decision in this regard;

(c) whether Government are taking any steps to create awareness of this disease among people and strengthen the National Cancer Control Programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) There is no proposal to include cancer in the specified list of disease.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) During the 8th Plan, emphasis has been given prevention and early detection of cancer and augmentation of treatment facilities, in the schemes under the Programme.

Encroachment of Ridge

[English]

1376. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued directives to remove all such encroachments from ridge area of Maharashtra which are reducing the greenery of the State;

(b) whether any initiative has been taken by the Union Government in this direction for removing the pologround and other encroachments made by the State Government, religious institutions and private persons including the military and para-military camps;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the State Government of Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance for National Parks and Sanctuaries

1377. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the annual financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the States for maintenance of National Parks and Sanctuaries has been fully utilised by the respective States during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Some States have not been able to fully utilise the funds provided to them by this Ministry for development of national parks and sanctuaries, mainly because of delayed sanction by the respective State Govts. and non-completion of some works in time due to unsuitable weather conditions and procedural delays.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the enclosed statements.

(d) The unutilised amounts have been revalidated in subsequent financial years to enable the States to complete the approved items of works.