

(b) whether the Government propose not to regularise such encroachments in future so as to check depletion of the forest cover; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) A statement showing State-wise forest area diverted under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for regularisation of encroachments is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). As per the existing guidelines of the Ministry, encroachments after 24.10.1980 are not eligible for regularisation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

STATEMENT

S. Name of the State/UT No.	Forest area diverted
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,367.00 ha.
2. Gujarat	10,900.47 ha.
3. Karnataka	14,848.83 ha.
4. Kerala	28,588.159 ha.
5. Madhya Pradesh	1.03 lakhs ha.

Fishing Harbours

*265. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish more fishing harbours along the west coast of Arabian sea in view of the serious difficulties faced by the fishermen for want of the berthing places for their fishing vessels;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered or considering to open fishing harbours at Thenkapattanam and Colachel in the west coast of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) One major fishing harbour thirteen minor fishing harbours and seventy seven fish landing centres have been completed with assistance from Government of India on the west coast of India One more major fishing harbour, nine minor fishing harbours and ten fish landing centres have been sanctioned for construction on the west coast of India for providing landing and berthing facilities to fishing vessels.

(b) and (c). At the suggestion of the Government of Tamil Nadu a pre-feasibility study has been completed

and it has been decided to carry out detailed techno-economic feasibility investigation during January - February, 1997 for Colachel fishing harbour. The Government of Tamil Nadu has also recently proposed that a fish landing centre should be developed at Thenkapattanam.

Konkan Railway Corporation

*266. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation in Goa has strictly abided by the recommendations of the Oza Committee regarding construction of railway bridges, overbridges, culverts etc. along the Konkan Railway route in Goa;

(b) whether the KRC has followed the norm of consulting experts and local self body chiefs like Sarpanchs while laying the tracks;

(c) if so, the reasons for sinking of mud embankments along the track at Cortalim village in Mormugao, Goa; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard indicating the structure proposed to be constructed to prevent the cracking and sinking of the mud embankments?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Sinking of the embankment was due to underlying layer of soft marine clay for a depth of 9 to 11 metres.

(d) Suitably designed sand drains under the embankments with suitably designed buttressed banks are being provided to prevent sinkage. Further, where the sinkage of the embankment and the consequent heaving up on either side would affect the natural drainage of the area, Konkan Railway has proposed replacing the banks with viaducts Railway Bridge culverts etc. for a length of about 320 metres.

Infiltrations

*267. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is continuous infiltration of foreigners from Pakistan in the Kutch region of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of these infiltrations during the last three years along with the number of persons arrested and deported so far; and

(c) the remedial measure taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the complete stoppage of these infiltrators?