

induced seismicity or not. Accordingly, setting up of stations for seismic surveillance and monitoring in this area has been decided on the basis of studies done by the Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune.

(b) The forest area likely to be affected by the project is 41,11.97 ha.

(c) Yes, sir.

Ban on Import of Hazardous Chemicals

1008. SHRI H.B. PATIL:
SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK:

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

(a) whether at a Conference of officers of States and Union Territories, on management of hazardous substances and pollution control, held in December 1988, a strong recommendation has been made for stopping the clandestine import of hazardous wastes; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the recommendations made at the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference stressed the importance of controlling the import of hazardous substances in the country with the help of the customs authorities and the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports under the guidance of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. It also recommended incorporation of suitable rules and regulations under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[English]

Fire in Office of Ministry of Environment and Forests

1009. SHRI S.D. SINGH:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:

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

(a) whether recently there was an incident of fire in the office of the Ministry of Environment at C.C.O Complex, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the causes of the fire and the total loss incurred; and

(c) whether some important documents were also burnt in this fire and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been possible to determine the exact cause of the fire. However, either an electrical short circuit or inadvertant non-switching off of some heating electrical appliance is suspected to have caused the fire.

The total loss due to fire is estimated at Rs. 6.32 lakhs mainly in the form of stationery, canteen stores and furnitures, recreation equipment, office equipment, etc.

(c) No, Sir. The fire directly affected only one wing of the sixth floor of Paryavaran Bhawan which was mainly occupied by canteen, Dining Room, Recreation Room, stationery and miscellaneous stores.

[English]

Persons Suffering from Various Diseases

1010. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government regarding the persons suffering from blindness, leprosy, insanity, anaemia, tuberculosis and venereal diseases in India;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in these diseases; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to check them during the last three years, particularly in the state of Orissa?