

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to rehabilitate the land holders who surrendered their land for the Thermal Power Project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The tariff for the power generation from the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project is yet to be fixed by the Government.

(c) and (d) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has formulated a Rehabilitation Action Plan (RAP) for the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) including landlosers. The RAP is based on a detailed Socio-economic and Demographic survey to find out the number of PAPs on the land acquired for the project. The RAP has finalised after a series of meetings of Village Development Advisory Committee (VDAC) comprising of representatives from the PAPs, State Government, NTPC and other interested groups working in the area. The total number of PAPs are 2244. Various schemes such as poultry farming, dairy farming, fish farming, coir products, coconut farming and other self-employment schemes have been finalised and are under implementation for the rehabilitation of PAPs.

Power Production in Jammu & Kashmir

2351. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Thermal Power Plant in Jammu region where the large quantity of Coal is available;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided to revive Kalakota Project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up a Thermal Power Plant in Jammu.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Salal, Uri Power Projects In Jammu & Kashmir

2352. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to hand over Salal and Uri Power Projects to the Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to install new power projects in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir. There is no decision to hand over the Uri and Salal HE Projects to the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

(b) and (c) The Dulhasti Hydro-electric project (3 x 130 MW) is under execution by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in Jammu and Kashmir. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in the year 2001.

National Highway No. 8

2353. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of National Highway No.8, Delhi-Jaipur road has become worse;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of accidents witnessed on the above National Highway near Gurgaon during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) It is a fact that accidents have been witnessed on this National Highway near Gurgaon. This Highway is being widened to 4 lane, which will reduce the number of accidents to a considerable extent.

Increase in Wild Animals

2354. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of wild animals is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of each of the major species as per the last census and the rate of increase thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save and increase their number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The number of some of the major wild animals have increased in the country.

(b) and (c) The estimated population of major species, as per the last census and rate of increase, State-wise, is given in the enclosed statement I to III.

(d) Steps taken to save and increase their population include:

- i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- iii) Raids are being carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trade in wild animals reaches them.
- iv) International trade in endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- v) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.
- vi) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programme on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during 1995 and 1996.
- vii) Staff in National Parks and Sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the National Parks and Sanctuaries.
- viii) Analogous to the Centre, the states have also been asked to set up co-ordination committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control illegal trade.

Statement-I

State	Tiger		Leopard	
	1993	1997	1993	1997
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	197	183	152	290
Arunachal Pradesh		NA	98	20
Assam	NA			NA
Bihar	NA	NA	NA	NA
Goa	3	6	31	25
Gujarat	5	1	772	803
Haryana	NA		NA	

	1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh				NA	
Karnataka		305	350		NA
Kerala		57	68		NA
Madhya Pradesh		9	12	927	NA
Maharashtra		276	257	417	431
Manipur		NA		NA	
Meghalaya		53	63		NA
Mizoram		28	12	49	20
Orissa		226	194	378	401
Rajasthan		64	58		NA
Sikkim		2	4		NA
Tripura		NA	NA	18	18
Uttar Pradesh		465	475		NA
West Bengal		335	361		NA
Dadar Nagar Haveli		nil	nil	NA	15
Total		2932	2959	1930	2023
% of increase		0.92		4.81	

The figures reveal that there is increase in the population Tiger and Leopard.

NA - Not available.

Statement-II

State	Elephant	
	1989 (min.-max)	1993 (min.-max)
Andhra Pradesh	1800-2000	46-46
Arunachal Pradesh	2000-4300	2000-3000
Assam	3500-300	5000-6000
Bihar	335-335	500-600
Karnataka	2200-2650	5000-6000
Kerala	2500-2500	3000-4000
Meghalaya	2750-3825	2500-3000
Orissa	1300-2000	1500-2000
Tamil Nadu	1250-1700	2300-2500
Tripura	120-150	NA
Uttar Pradesh	NA	750-1000
West Bengal	155-155	200-200
Total	17910-23265	22796-28346
% of increase	21.83	

The figure reveal that there is increase in the population of elephant.

Statement-III

State	Rhino		Lion		Brow antlered deer	
	1991	1997	1989	1995	1996	1997
	(Estate)					
Assam	1519	1530				
Gujarat			284	304		
Manipur					143	147
U.P.	9(1989)	13				
W.B.	39(1989)	55				
Total	1567	1598	284	304	143	147
% of increase	1.97		7.04		2.79	

The figures reveal that there is increase in the population of Rhino, Lion and Brow antlered deer.

National Highways in Bihar

2355. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway linking Patna-Chapra-Siwan is in a very bad condition and not safe for public transport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) Only a part of road linking Patna-Chapra-Siwan is National Highway, which is maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

"Denotified Areas in Reserve Forests"

2356. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of guidelines for denotifying reserve forests; and

(b) the details of denotified areas in the reserved forests of the country during the last three years, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As per the Section 27 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the State Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, direct that from a date fixed by such notification, any forest or any portion thereof reserved under the Act shall cease to be a reserved forest. However, before the issue of such notification, the concerned State Government is required to obtain the prior approval of the Central

Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Research on Plant-Based Drugs/Herbal Drugs

2357. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be please to state :

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research proposes to conduct research on the plant-based drugs and herbal drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have an ongoing R&D programme involving 20 CSIR laboratories for developing plant based drugs and for standardisation of procedures and processing technologies for plant-based and herbal drugs.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Power Finance Corporation

2358. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the liabilities of Power Finance Corporation; and

(b) the works undertaken by the corporation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The liabilities of the Power Finance Corporation as on 31.3.1998 are as under:-

	Rs. in Crores
Capital	1030.45
Reserves & Surplus	1449.85
Secured loans	2420.02
Unsecured loans	2686.61
Current liabilities and provisions	373.04
Total	7959.97

(b) The Power Finance Corporation is a public financial institution and does not undertake any work/project itself but extends financial assistance to various State Utilities like State Electricity Boards, State Generating Corporations, State Power Departments as also to the private power projects and Central Utilities.