

to give them more if they needed but they should activate their Government.

[English]

### **Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary**

\*369. SHRI MAHASAMUDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include the Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary in the Project for conservation of elephant population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps so far taken to restore the degraded habit of elephants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **STATEMENT**

(a) and (b). The elephant population in Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary is a part of the larger elephant population of the proposed Nilgiri-Eastern Ghat elephant reserve under 'Project Elephant'. While finalising the details of the areas to be included in the above reserve, the question of inclusion in the Kaundinya area will also receive due consideration.

(c) The steps proposed to be taken under the 'Project Elephant' for restoring the degradation in elephant habitats are:-

- (i) conservation and protection of the habitats of viable elephant populations through reduction of biotic pressures and plantation of suitable species;
- (ii) restoration of traditional corridors linking the parts of the habitats which were being used by the ele-

phants for their migrant in the past;

- (iii) reduction in dependence of people on forests and securing improvement in their living standards through eco-development activities; and
- (iv) mitigation of man-elephant conflicts and ensuring people cooperation in conservation measures.

SHRI MAHASAMUDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any provision in the centrally sponsored scheme for providing assistance for State Governments for payment of compensation to the victims of elephant menace.

If so, the details thereof by stating its amount and criterion for fixing up such an amount, etc;

And if not, the reasons therefor.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: There is a scheme for providing compensation to victims of those who are attacked by wild elephants and a certain amount have been paid in this regard. Compensation which had been paid in 1989-90 was Rs. 1,01,000 and in 1990-91, Rs. 38,960 has been paid. The Andhra Pradesh Government pays Rs. 10,000 for the kith and kin of those who have been killed by elephants and Rs. 2,90,000 have already been paid by the Andhra Pradesh Government as compensation.

SHRI MAHASAMUDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY: I would like to know whether the Government have taken up short term and long term measures to control different types of depredations caused by elephant herds especially in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh so far. If so, I would like to know the details thereof taking into account the methods adopted, measures undertaken to stop migration from the forests of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to Andhra Pradesh, attempts made for restoration to traditional elephant habitat, etc.

**SHRI KAMAL NATH:** Sir, Andhra Pradesh has proposed to have an elephant safari in the Thirumala Hills between Alipari and Kalyani. The entire area would be surrounded by elephant proof wall-cum-moat over an approximate length of 26 kilometres. Measures for improvement of habitat and augmentation of water supply would also be taken. The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 4.1 crores. There are other measures under various other schemes which are being taken for the protection of elephant habitat.

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**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[English]

**Uniformity in Administration of Universities**

\*370. **SHRI P.M. SAYEED:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring uniformity in the administration of various universities;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme drawn up for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):** (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government to bring uniformity in the administration of universities.

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

**Adulterated Gulal**

\*371. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Gulal can damage the eyes" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 27, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that only pure gulal is allowed to be sold in the open markets;

(d) the number of gulal samples lifted in 1991 and how many of them were found to be adulterated; and

(e) the action taken against the persons responsible for supplying adulterated gulal in the market?

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information available from the National Society for Prevention of Blindness (NSPB), 'GULAL' contains mica and is generally adulterated with sand, brick powder and the like when sold in the market. While smearing gulal at the time of playing Holi, the colour powder can get into the eyes and damage cornea leading to abrasions which may lead to loss of sight.

(c) to (e). Gulal is not a 'Cosmetic' as defined in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. As such the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare do not control the sale of Gulal in the open market. The hazardous aspects of its use require public education and awareness.