

Closure of Pollution Causing Industries

1160. **SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:**
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have issued notices to 500 industrial units and 17 major sectors for contravention of the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have prepared another list of 900 units which have also been found for contravention of Environment Protection Act;

(c) if so, the number of units so far responded to the notices;

(d) the details of their offences; and

(e) the action being taken against these units and the time by which a final decision for closure of these units is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d). According to the information provided by the States, there are 3094 large and medium scale polluting units in the 17 major sectors out of which 150 units have not initiated action for complying with the prescribed standards. The State Pollution Control Boards have been advised to issue notices to the recalcitrant units.

(e) 1. An industry operation or process which has commenced production on or before 16th May 1981, and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities

to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December 1993.

2. An industry, operation or process which has commenced production after the 16th day of May, 1981 but before the 31st day of December, 1991, and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December, 1992.

Smuggling of Sandalwood.

1161. **DR. RAJAGOPALAN RIDHARAN:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of sandalwood is on the increase in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether these States have sought assistance from the Union Government to launch a special drive to apprehend sandalwood smugglers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance given to these States by the Union Government during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL MATH): (a) Smuggling of Sandalwood is not on increase in the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu as informed by those State Governments.

(b) No such assistance was sought from the Government of India by these States.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The financial assistance provided by Government of India during 1990-91 to the State Government of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu exclusively for checking smuggling of Sandalwood has been to the tune of Rs. 20 lakhs and Rs. 40 lakhs respectively.

Pollution by Pesticides

1162. DR. R. MALLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pesticides are causing considerable soil damage and water pollution;

(b) the total quantity of pesticides used in 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990 indicating the quantities imported and indigenously manufactured;

(c) the estimated annual sales of imported and indigenous pesticides for the years indicated in (b) above;

(d) whether any estimate of human loss due to use of pesticides has been made on account of pest resistance; food contamination; water contamination; poisonings; losses

due to soil fertility, bees and earthworms, etc. and

(e) if so, the details thereof and remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There are no reports of considerable damage to water and land in the country due to pollution from pesticides; though there are some reports of minor contamination. Regular monitoring of the River Ganga and a few of its tributaries has been started since November, 1986 on a monthly basis by collecting water samples from 27 different locations in U.P., Bihar and West Bengal. The water samples have been analysed for residues of 12 major pesticides and their metabolites/isomers. The analytical data collected so far did not show any definite pattern of variation. The residues of pesticides are also monitored in sediments at 173 stations all along the coast-line of the country.

(b) and (c). Directorate of Plant Protection, quarantine & Storage (PPQAS) has been consolidating information on the consumption of pesticides in the country. As far as sale of imported and indigenously produced pesticides in the country is concerned, it may be considered at par with the following statistics and the consumption of pesticides. As such, the statistics for relevant years are as under:—

(MT Tech. Gr.)

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Consumption</i> | <i>Import</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1960-61 | 8,620 | N.A. |
| 1970-71 | 24,320 | N.A. |
| 1980-81 | 45,000 | 2,486 |
| 1990-91 | 75,000 | 1,094 |