

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Tata Energy Research Institute has carried out a study entitled "Environmental aspects of energy use in large Indian metropolises" which has suggested that introduction of cleaner technologies are not enough to reduce the energy and environment problems associated with the transport sector. The report, inter alia, states that with the growing traffic congestion and inadequate road development, demand management is critical and needs to be more vigorously used.

The Government has already taken preventive and control measures to reduce vehicular pollution, which includes the following :

- Stipulation of emission norms;
- Unleaded petrol was introduced in the four metropolitan cities on 1.4.95 for catalytic convertor fitted vehicles. The second phase would cover all capitals of States and Union Territories by December, 1998. This is likely to be progressively implemented throughout the country by 01.04.2000;
- Enforcement of standards for control of vehicular emission through State Transport Authorities;
- Government of Delhi has been impressed upon to induct more buses (preferably high capacity buses) to augment its fleet strength and to phase out the old buses;

[Translation]

Bhassagar Reservoir Plan

2606. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhassagar reservoir plan has not been sanctioned as some forest land is coming under the reservoir;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to accord permission for digging of the forest land; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cases in Consumer Courts

2607. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered in the consumer courts/fora during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken or propose to be taken to dispose of these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Information regarding number of cases registered in the District Fora, year-wise, is not maintained. However, the number of cases registered in District Fora, since inception, State-wise, is enclosed as statement.

(b) For speedy disposal of cases by the consumer courts, Central Government has launched a scheme of one-time financial assistance of Rs. 61 crores to the States/U.Ts. to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. The Department of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution also monitors the progress of disposal of cases by the Consumer Courts in consultation with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) and the respective State Governments. NCDRC has issued appropriate instructions to Consumer Courts for improving their performance in disposing the cases.

Statement

State/UT	Filed since Inception	At the end of
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	79675	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	140	10/96
Assam	3831	4/96
Bihar	26227	10/96
Goa	2139	10/96
Gujrat	41736	9/96
Haryana	40186	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	7232	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	6882	6/96
Karnataka	41953	6/96
Kerala	71464	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	34935	12/95
Maharashtra	60603	9/96
Manipur	611	9/95
Meghalaya	137	6/96
Mizoram	159	11/96
Nagaland	13	9/94
Orissa	14535	9/96
Punjab	15085	9/96
Rajasthan	84071	9/96
Sikkim	67	10/96
Tamil Nadu	33616	9/96