GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:273 ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014 REMOVAL OF CONCRETE SURROUNDING TREES Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has instructed for the removal of concrete surrounding trees in the country including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the follow-up action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the remedial action taken by the Government to save the trees from concretization already done?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Dr. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 273 BY SHRI SAJJAN VERMA REGARDING "REMOVAL OF CONCRETE SURROUNDING TREES" DUE FOR REPLY ON 10.02.2014

(a)& (b) Yes Sir. In the Original Application No. 82 of 2013, National Green Tribunal (NGT) vide order dated 23rd April, 2013 has directed all the public authorities particularly the Central Public Works Department, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Development Authority, Delhi Transport Corporation, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, National Highway Authority of India and Public Works Department of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to take necessary action including removal of concrete surrounding the trees within Delhi.

(c)& (d) The Ministry has requested all the concerned Ministries, Departments and agencies for strict implementation of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi's order dated 19.09.2007 in W.P. (C) No. 1772/2007 wherein it is stated that concretization around the trees should be stopped and remedial action taken to save the trees from concretization already done. As per the report received from Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, the work of deconcretization surrounding the trees has been completed in several colonies. The log of deconcretization activities is maintained. The Department of Forests & Wildlife, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi conducts random checking to ensure that proper deconcretization is done by different agencies.