

we are going to instal an equipment so that it may not be harmful to the health of the common people.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, part (b) of the question is on information about the infrastructure to assess air pollution, including that at Trivandrum. Air pollution is more in the cities like Calcutta, Delhi and Bombay where traffic jams are there and vehicles are emitting smoke and soot. Even petrol vapours released in Delhi and other cities contain soot. In Delhi what we find is, because of non-installation of electrostatic precipitators in the thermal plants—I do not know whether they are installed now—lot of soot is released in the air and even in our MPs' flats we find that the fans are coated with soot. It is not known how much soot is released into the air and it goes into our ears, nose and eyes. We in the cities are more prone to air pollution. What studies are being conducted about this, as asked in the question ?

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 18 such metropolitan cities in the country where pollution is excessive. The sources which cause pollution include factories, domestic waste water, domestic smoke, vehicular traffic such as trucks, buses, cars, etc. Of these, we have selected 9 cities for the present and it will be our endeavour to reduce the menace of pollution there. You know, this problem is not going to be solved overnight. It will take some time, but the Government are doing their best to solve this problem as early as possible.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES : If you see the answer given by the Minister, it says that facilities are available in different organisations including the Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum for specialised studies relating to air quality and atmospheric sciences. Travancore Titanium Product is the only one industry worth the name in Trivandrum. However, it has caused serious threat to the city because it has already caused air pollution and sea pollution. The whole atmosphere is contaminated with smog

and sulphuric acid waste is allowed to flow to the sea and several kilometres of sea is already polluted. The traditional seamen are now undergoing great hardship because fish does not survive there and they are in starvation. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether effective steps will be taken to control pollution caused by the TTP project ?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : Answer to the last question is yes. As far as this centre is concerned, it is established under the Indian Middle Atmosphere Programme. It is not primarily meant for the measurement of ambient levels.

But certainly measurement of ambient levels of hydroxyl concentrations will provide useful information on the nature and extent of pollution and the impact of man-made emissions. This Centre is under the Ministry of Space. And the studies which they are making will certainly help us in knowing the ambient levels in the atmosphere. We shall certainly make use of them.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I want to know whether steps will be taken to control pollution ?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : I have specifically said that certainly steps will be taken to take care of every sort of pollution. It is because of this fact that in the last session we brought an Environment Protection Bill to take care of every sort of pollution whether it is air pollution, water pollution or environmental pollution.

[Translation]

Development of sanctuaries and National Desert Park in Rajasthan

*125 **SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the broad outlines of the schemes to further develop Sariska, Ranthambhore Sanctuaries as well as Jaisalmer National Desert Park in Rajasthan State ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : A statement is given below ;

Statement

Development of sanctuaries and National Desert Park in Rajasthan

Sariska and Ranthambhore became Tiger Reserves in 1978-79 and 1973-74 respectively, and are receiving Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger'. Assistance provided by the Central Government to Sariska and Ranthambhore National Parks during the VI Five Year Plan was Rs. 23.86 lakhs and Rs. 19.06 lakhs respectively. The proposed outlay for these areas during the VII Five Year Plan is Rs. 444899 lakhs and Rs. 47.67 lakhs. Activities to be undertaken in these two areas include protection of the fauna, flora and the ecosystem; development of road and wireless communication; water conservation; habitat improvement; protection from fire and grazing; collection of basic data and scientific information required for the better management of the area.

An area of 3162 sq. kms. in the Jaisalmer and Barmer districts of Rajasthan has been declared as a sanctuary in August, 1980 with the object of preservation and restoration of the desert flora and fauna and ecosystems. The intention to declare it as a Desert National Park was notified in May, 1981. Grazing is being controlled; plantations undertaken; certain areas fenced off; drinking water facilities being provided to animals and animals are being protected from poaching. The State Government of Rajasthan has not asked for any financial assistance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for this area so far.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Jaisalmer and Barmer National Desert Park was notified as a protected area in the year 1981, we were assured that the local wild habitats like Deer, Panda, Godavan and the flora and fauna would be preserved. But during my recent visit to that area, I found that the pace of progress was very slow. Neither the arrangements made by erecting a fencing to prevent cattle from grazing there have been effective nor Deer and Godavans are being reared there. Therefore, I would like to know as to what steps have been taken to develop this park so far, what are the programmes in this regard in the Seventh Five

Year Plan and how much assistance the Central Government is going to provide for this and in what form ?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, till 1970, hunting of tiger was not banned. The ban came into force after 1970. The Bill was passed and the Act came into force in 1972. Under this project, we have notified 15 areas of which 3 are in Rajasthan.

So far as the quantum of funds to be spent on this project during the Seventh Five Year Plan is concerned, we have provided Rs. 10.60 crores for the development of these sanctuaries so that beautiful sanctuaries could be developed on modern lines. This is how we have chalked out this programme.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Is this amount of Rs. 10 crores being given for Jaisalmer ?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : No, the figure which I have given is for the country as a whole. If the Hon. Member wants to know the figures about Jaisalmer, I am prepared to give them for his information. The funds allocated for Jaisalmer were Rs. 6.50 lakhs in 1982-83, Rs. 6.84 lakhs in 1983-84, Rs. 6.50 lakhs in 1984-85 and Rs. 8.87 lakhs in 1985-86.

The entire expenditure that may be incurred on a scheme under which a *pucca* structure is erected as also on the maintenance of the sanctuary shall be borne by the Central Government.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, even a cursory reading of Hon. Minister's written reply makes it clear that the amount allocated for this purpose during last some years was inadequate whereas the area of 3162 square kilometres was notified for this sanctuary. How then the development of these areas could be possible? Therefore, I would like to know as to what scheme the Central Government are formulating in this regard and how are they going to provide cent per cent assistance? Also what steps the Government have taken in regard to the order of Sawai Madhopur's Collector as a result of which cattle graziers had intruded into the Ranthambhore sanctuary and had destroyed the trees, plants and grass?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Sir, it is true that Rajasthan is facing severe drought for the last three or four years in succession, as a result of which nowhere green pastures are seen. Therefore, some people requested the Collector that the villagers be allowed to graze their cattle there, because due to shortage of fodder and green grass, their cattle were facing starvation. The Collector allowed grazing of cattle in the area where cattle grazing can be permitted, but this area, though a reserved area, was not the one where nobody is allowed to enter. However, he should not have given this permission, because a number of cattle graziers raided the area with their cattle herds and cut about 100 trees besides causing huge damage. Thereafter, our officers made a request to the Collector that this step had caused a heavy damage and as such the permission for cattle grazing should not be given. But when the Collector did not agree to this request, we wrote to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. Thereupon, the Government of Rajasthan issued orders to the Collector to withdraw the permission. The Collector withdraw his orders which also led to a clash and a scuffle ensued. The Collector should not have given permission for cattle grazing, but since he did so, he was transferred from there. The Central Government have written to the State Government to send a deiled report on the incident after conducting an inquiry into it indicating the loss suffered and fixing up the responsibility.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sariska Tiger Project is located in my constituency and this project has been given only Rs. 44.89 lakhs as Central assistance in the Seventh Plan. It means that only Rs. 9 lakhs will be given to this tiger project of such a large size. As there has been no rains successively for the last two years, neither there is water nor a blade of grass. The Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Government, are giving funds for water conservation and habitat improvement, but I would like to say that the amount of funds that are being allocated is totally inadequate.

I would like to know whether in view of the special condition of that area and also in view of the fact that it is the largest tiger project in the country, the Hon. Minister would be kind enough to allocate additional

funds so that the wild life in the project area could get water to drink and arrangements for growing grass could also be made there ?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Though the question asked by the Hon. Member is well taken, yet the difficulty that arises is that the Government of Rajasthan has not asked for even a single paisa so far.

MR. SPEAKER : Have they not asked for it ?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : No, they have not. We are prepared to give funds, should they so demand.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Singh, you may ask the Rajasthan Government to ask for funds in writing. It would not help if they show miserliness even in seeking funds.

You tell me Mr. Jujhar Singh, will you awaken the Government or not ?

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, like Sariska and Ranthambhore, Durah Games Sanctuary located in Kota district is also very important. I would like to know whether it is a fact that cattle graziers from outside the district have settled down there and no steps have been taken to evict them from the sanctuary ? What does the Government propose to do in this regard ?

MR. SPEAKER : Bhajan Lalji, I have received one suggestion, and this is the opinion of the entire House too, that I should ask you to give funds. Therefore, you give funds.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : If it is your order, I shall carry it out, but you ask the Rajasthan Government to send it in writing.

MR. SPEAKER : You take my word and allocate funds.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Let them at least say for which project they need funds.

MR. SPEAKER : They are not asking it for their personal benefit.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Let them at least give it in black and white,

[English]

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : Is it a fact that Durah game sanctuary in Kota (Rajasthan) is as old and as important as the one in Sariska and the Ranthambhore Game Sanctuary and that the cattle graziers from outside Kota have been allowed to come and settle down in this sanctuary after it was declared as a sanctuary area? What efforts is the Government making to clear the exploitation in this area?

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Sir, Government have always made their best efforts. So far as the question of giving funds for Ranthambhore Sanctuary is concerned, I would like to inform this House that Rs. 4.00 lakhs were given in 1981-82, Rs. 5.50 lakhs were given in 1982-83, Rs. 1.56 lakhs in 1983-84, Rs. 4.00 lakhs in 1984-85 and Rs. 7.70 lakhs were given in 1985-86.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : My question is about something else.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : You have asked about Ranthambhore to which I have replied. So far as the question of migration of cattle from outside the district or giving them permission for grazing is concerned, the permission is given under a set of rules. It is not that we give step-motherly treatment to one area and indulge in committing excess in another area. It is not like that.

[English]

Development of Wasteland

*128 **SHRI P. M. SAYEED :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to adopt any new strategy for the development of wasteland in the country;

(b) whether programmes for increased productivity in dryland have been chalked out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) :
(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yer Sir.

(c) The details pertaining to (a) and (b) above are given below in statements I and II respectively.

Statement-I

Action Plan

The Action Plan drawn up by the National Wastelands Development Board and accepted by the State/UT Governments for implementation has the following key elements :—

1. Identification of Wastelands :

Each State/UT Government has been requested to identify wastelands in their territory whether they be in forest area, revenue/common lands or degraded farm lands.

2. People's Involvements :

This will be ensured by the following measures :—

(a) **Decentralised Nurseries :** People's nurseries i.e. kisans, schools, women, youth groups, voluntary agencies, etc., will be motivated to meet the increased demand of seedlings.

(b) **Farm Forestry :** Farmers will be motivated to take up tree farming on their marginal lands and planting on their field bunds. A rational policy in regard to distribution of seedlings should be evolved.

(c) **Tree Growers 'Cooperative :** Tree Growers' Cooperatives should be organised with the involvement of farmers in raising and distribution of seedlings and in tree plantations.

(d) **Voluntary Agencies :** The grass-roots agencies. Mahila Mandals, Youth groups would also be motivated in nursery raising and tree plantations.