

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). No comprehensive survey of teak growing areas of the North Eastern region, particularly the Manipur-Burma border has been made so far

(c) and (d). There is no proposal from the Government of Manipur regarding formulation of a time-bound programme for protection and nurturing of teak wood in the Manipur-Burma border areas. The State forest department is responsible for protection and nurturing of the forest lands.

Illegal Trade in Skins and Bones of Wild Animals

*298. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a flourishing business in skins and bones of the wild animals in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to put an end to this trade; and

(c) the number of persons, State-wise, arrested during the last 12 months indulging in this illegal trade and how does it compare with the arrests made during the preceding three years?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) Occasional cases of illegal trade in skins and bones of wild animals are detected.

(b) Major steps taken to put curbs on this trade are as follows:—

(i) Regulation of hunting and trade of wild animals is provided for

under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) International trade in respect of wild animals and products derived therefrom, is strictly regulated with reference to provisions given in Export Policy and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES).

(iii) The Wildlife Division under Government of India has been suitably strengthened by creation of 4 regional and 3 sub-regional offices.

(iv) Assistance is provided to state Governments under a centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructure to apprehend poachers and illicit traders.

(v) Scheme of cash rewards for providing intelligence about poachers and illegal traders has been introduced.

(vi) Better coordination has been established at the State level between police and wildlife officials and at the Centre with officials of Custom Department and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence.

(c) State-wise information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Ban on Smoking In Indoor Work Places

*300. **SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

because of new scientific evidence, Public Citizen Health Research Group in the USA has moved the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration for a ban on smoking in all indoor work places where non-smoking people work; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to ensure that non-smokers in all indoor work places have not to inhale the pollution emitted by the smokers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Control of smoking at work to protect non-smokers against the dangers and discomforts of passive smoking will be kept in view while finalising draft legislation for anti-smoking measures

Sale of Surplus Land

*301. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have given any instructions or suggestions to the Government of Maharashtra to allow the sale of surplus land with the textile mills in Bombay;

(b) if so, the total liabilities of private mills and the National Textile Corporation mills in Bombay; and

(c) the amount expected to be collected by sale of these lands and whether it would be sufficient for the repayment of Bank loans, workers liabilities and modernisation of the mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) Yes, Sir. NTC have made some sugges-

tions to the State Government of Maharashtra regarding the sale of surplus land.

(b) The Government do not maintain information in respect of the liabilities of the private mills. However, as on 31.3.1988, the secured and non-secured loans of the nationalised mills of NTC amounted to Rs. 333.70 crores.

(c) The amount expected to be realised by the Bombay based mills from the sale of surplus lands depends on various factors like the identification of surplus land, land use, buyer-response, etc. and hence cannot be indicated at this stage. It is also not possible to indicate whether expected sales realisation, as and when it takes place, would be enough to cover the repayment of bank loans, workers liability and modernisation of the mills.

Closure of Textile Mills in Punjab

*302. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old textile units in Punjab have been facing closure; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the main reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to help these textile units?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) As on 28th February, 1989, no textile mill in the organised sector was reported closed in Punjab.

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