

BIODIVERSITY

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

STEPS TAKEN TO ARREST AND PRESERVE BIODIVERSITY

13th February, 2014

LSQ 2358

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE
N.K. SINGH

- (a) whether the forests are undergoing a phenomenal shift endangering bio-diversity and causing regional climate changes/dynamics in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to arrest and preserve bio-diversity in the country?

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

(a)&(b) A study by Indian Network on Climate Change Assessment (INCCA) titled "Climate Change and India: A 4x4 Assessment- Regional and Sectoral Analysis for 2030s", was published in the year 2010. The report provides an assessment of impact of climate change in 2030s on four key sectors of the Indian economy, namely Agriculture, Water, Natural Ecosystems & Biodiversity and Health in four climate sensitive regions of India, namely the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal Area and the North-East Region. Further the report indicates the impact of climate change on forests including shifts in forest type boundary, change in net primary productivity and biomass and carbon accumulation rates. However, there is no specific study indicating that phenomenal shifts in forests is endangering biodiversity and causing regional climate change/dynamics in the country.

(c) Some important steps taken by the Government for conservation of biological diversity inter-alia include: survey and inventorisation of floral and faunal resources; assessment of forest cover to develop an accurate database for planning and monitoring; establishment of a Protected Area network of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation and Community Reserves; designating Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems; species oriented programmes, such as Project Tiger and Project Elephant, complemented with ex-situ conservation efforts. In addition, Biological Diversity Act 2002 and Rules there under aim to conserve biological resources of the country and regulation of access to these resources to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use. A National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards have been set up for implementing the provisions of the Act.

BIODIVERSITY

26th November 2014

LSQ 492

C.S. PUTTARAJU

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether forests are undergoing a phenomenal shift, endangering biodiversity and causing regional climate changes/dynamics in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to preserve biodiversity?

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Some important steps taken by the Government for conservation of biological diversity inter alia include: survey and inventorisation of floral and faunal resources; assessment of the forest cover to develop an accurate database for planning and monitoring; establishment of a Protected Area Network of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation and Community Reserves; designating Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems; undertaking of species oriented programmes, such as Project Tiger and Project Elephant; complemented with ex-situ conservation efforts. In addition, Biological Diversity Act 2002 has also been enacted with the aim to conserve biological resources of the country and regulation of access to these resources to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use, under which a National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards have been set up for implementing the provisions of the Act.

BIODIVERSITY OF MAGURI MOTAPUNG WETLAND, ASSAM

04th December, 2014

RSQ *170

DR. CHANDAN MITRA

- (a) whether Government is aware that rich biodiversity of the historical Maguri Motapung Wetland, which has been declared as important bird area in Tinsukia district of Assam and is in danger due to burning of gases by a private oil company and its oil pipelines;
- (b) if so, the details of damages to the wetland since the setting up of the oil company;
- (c) the reasons for allowing construction work of this company in violation of Environmental Impact Notification 2006; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken by Government for conservation of Maguri Motapung Wetland and its rich biodiversity?

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No.170 to be answered on Thursday, the 4th December, 2014 on 'Biodiversity of Maguri Motapung Wetland, Assam' raised by Dr. Chandan Mitra

(a) to (c) As informed by the Forest Department of the State Government of Assam, there are no reports of any threat to rich bio-diversity of Maguri Motapung Wetland due to burning of gases and oil pipe lines of Oil India Limited in the area.

Based on the proposal submitted by the project proponents, Environmental Clearance for the project relating to crude oil and gas pipe lines originating from Baghjan in Tinsukia District of Assam, was granted in January, 2012 as required under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. Further, the proposal of Oil India Limited forwarded by the State Government for use of non-forest land falling within 10 km of Dibru-Saikhowa National Park and Bherjan-Borajan-Padumoni Wild Life Sanctuary was approved by the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life in their meeting held on 12-13 August, 2014, as per the recommendations of the site inspection team.

(d) To suggest corrective steps for conservation of Maguri Motapung wetland, a study has been undertaken by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu. In order to conserve lakes and wetlands in integrated manner, all the States/Union Territories including Assam, have been asked to take adequate measures, which include identification and notification of priority wetlands, constitution of wetland authorities, development of integrated management plans, etc.

BIO DIVERSITY CONSERVATION SCHEME FOR JAITAPUR

27th November 2014

RSQ 496

Shri Ishwarlal Shankarlal Jain

- (a) whether high power committee of the Ministry has given its approval to the Bio-diversity Conservation Scheme for Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project of Maharashtra; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) constituted by the Ministry for considering the Nuclear power projects for grant of Environment Clearance has approved the Biodiversity Conservation Plan(BCP), submitted by the Nuclear Power Corporation (NPCIL) for Jaitapur Nuclear Power Park (6x 1650 MWe) at Village Madban, Taluka Rajapur, District Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, in its meeting held on 6th May, 2014. The committee observed that BCP is a unique and important document identifying various issues required for the biodiversity conservation in the Jaitapur area. NPCIL is responsible to implement the plan in its study area. The Monitoring Committee in this regard has already been constituted by the NPCIL to monitor satisfactory implementation of BCP programme in its study area.