

Agricultural Research are members of the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) a statutory body established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Based on the outcome of the public consultation, the GEAC has been requested to address the concerns for resolving all scientific issues relating to safety of Bt. brinjal.

(c) The main challenges associated with the introduction of Bt. crops is to deploy appropriate insect resistance management strategy to ensure long-term sustainability of the technology.

Protection of pig-noised turtles

956. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the endangered pig-noised turtles are falling easy prey to poachers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to protect these turtles in each State including Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) As per available information, the pig-nosed turtle (*Carettochelys insculpta*) does not occur naturally in India. Further, as per reports received from the Government Andhra Pradesh, poaching of this species is not reported in Andhra Pradesh.

Action against Lavasa for violation of green laws

957. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has asked the State of Maharashtra Government to take action against Lavasa for violation of green laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has given conditional clearance to the hill city project located near Pune;
- (d) whether construction in 681 hectare area was in progress without obtaining prior environment clearance; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by Government against the defaulting unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry asked the Government of Maharashtra on 10th June, 2011 to take action against M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 because certain violations have been noticed

during the site visit by the Committee headed by Shri Naresh Dayal and also during the appraisal by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) constituted under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

(c) and (d) M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited submitted a proposal seeking environmental clearance on 2nd February, 2011 for 2000 hectares (Phase-I). The proposal was appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee in its various meetings and the Committee recommended the proposal with certain conditions. The Ministry has informed M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited regarding the requirement of the five pre-conditions before the issue of Environmental clearance. Environmental clearance is not issued as on date.

(e) Ministry has earlier issued a Show cause notice under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited on 25th November, 2010 and issued final directions on 17th January, 2011. M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited has filed writ petitions in the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay challenging the Show cause notice and final directions.

**Enactment of environmental laws following Stockholm and
Rio de Janeiro declarations**

958. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the specific principles in the Stockholm Declaration of 1972 pursuant to which the Air Prevention and Control of Pollution Act, 1981 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986 were enacted in the country;

(b) the details of the specific principles in the Stockholm Declaration of June, 1972 and the Rio de Janeiro declaration of June, 1992 pursuant to which the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 was enacted in the country; and

(c) The details of the specific principles in the Rio de Janeiro declaration of June, 1992 pursuant to which the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 was enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The United Nations Conference held at Stockholm in June, 1972 resolved to protect and enhance environmental quality and suggested the States to enact a comprehensive law for protection of environment.

(b) In addition to what has been stated in (a) above, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992, called upon the States to provide effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, and to develop national laws regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage.