

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5989
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
IMPACT OF SIDUMBAR DAM ON FOREST COVER
MADHUSUDAN DEVRAM MISTRY

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that huge tracts of prime forests are likely to be submerged under the proposed Sidumbar dam in Valsad district of South Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details of exact area of prime forests and other forests lands that are likely to be affected by the said project;
- (c) the steps taken for minimizing the loss of valuable forests in the wake of shrinking forest cover of the country; and
- (d) the details of compensatory efforts being proposed to make up for the lost prime forest areas?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A proposal involving diversion of 427.13 ha. of forest land for Sidumbar Reservoir Project in Valsad district of Gujarat was submitted by the State Government to the Ministry in 1996. The proposal was rejected on 17.9.97 on merit. The proposal was resubmitted by the State Government in October, 1999. The State Government was requested to submit some additional information for reconsideration on 22.12.99. Since no information was received from the State Government the said proposal has been rejected again.