

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:41
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2000
ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND
MOHAN RAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to regularise the encroachments on forest land;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating any steps to implement the action plan meant for enhancing the forest cover in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per the various Guidelines & Rules framed under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, a provision exists for regularisation of pre-1980 encroachments where the State Government had taken a decision before enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, to regularise encroachments of eligible category as per the certain criteria evolved by the State Government in accordance with local needs and conditions but could not implement their decision before the commencement of the Act. So far 15 proposals from eight different State Governments/Union Territories have been received for regularisation of encroachment of forest land which has taken place prior to 25.10.1980 under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The present status of these proposals is annexed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) This Ministry has formulated National Forestry Action Programme (NFAP) to increase the forest and tree cover to the desired 33% of the land area in the next 20 years. It is estimated that implementation of NFAP would require huge financial inputs i.e. Rs. 1339.00 billion in the next 20 years. Accordingly the State Governments have been requested to increase fund allocation to forestry sector and to submit schemes for Centrally Sponsored Schemes so that enhanced outlay can be sought in the remaining years of 9th Plan and 10th Plan. Besides this funding is also being sought from the external donor agencies like World Bank, Japan Bank for International Co-operation and European Economic Commission.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 41 ON ` ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND ` FOR 24.7.2000.

S.NO NAME OF DISTRICT AREA (HA. STATUS
STATE/U.T.

1.	Andman & Nicobar Island	Andamans	1,367	Approved in August, 1988
2.	Andman & Nicobar Island	Andamans Administration on	89	Essential details sought from UT 20.11.1998
3.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Andamans	735	Essential details sought from UT Administration on 5.9.1989
4.	Arunachal	Dibang	10,160	Essential details

- Pradesh sought from the State
Govt. Reminder on
7.10.99.
5. Arunachal Pradesh Dibang 13,419.29 Approved in principle on 23.10.1992
 6. Gujarat Panchmahal, Sabarkantha etc. Dang, 10,900 Approved on 10.11.1994
 7. Gujarat Vadodra, Dang, Surat etc. 39,750.59 Approved in principle on 17.11.1994
 8. Karnataka Chickmagalur, Mysore and Uttar Kannada 732 Rejected on merits on 8.4.1996
 9. Karnataka 19 districts 14,848.83 Approved on 15.5.1996 for diversion of 14,848.83 ha. of forest land out of 17,007 ha. proposed.
 10. Kerala Idduki, Ernakullam, Quilon, Trichur etc. 28,588.15 Approved on 31.1.1995
 11. Madhya Pradesh All districts 1.03 lakh ha. Approved 1.03 lakh ha. in July 1990, out of 2.73 lakh ha. proposed.
 12. Madhya Pradesh All districts 1,82,889.7 Discussed in Advisory Committee on 30.3.2000 and additional information sought from State on 5.7.00.
 13. Maharashtra Dhule 10,185.32 Essential details sought from State Govt. on 19.8.1988.
 14. Maharashtra Gadchiroli 28,886.4 Essential details sought from State Govt. on 30.6.1992
 15. Rajasthan 10 districts 3171.4 Discussed in Advisory Committee on 18.11.98 and additional information sought from State on 2.12.1998. Reminded on 30.7.1999.