

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4394
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
DEMANDS OF FOREST DEPENDENT PEOPLE
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

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

- (a) whether the Government have finalised a list of "forest-dependent" people in different States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the criteria adopted for inclusion of any section of people in the list;
- (d) whether a large number of people are traditionally dependent on forests for their livelihood; and
- (e) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to reconcile their demands and protection of forest?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

- (a) No sir. However, according to State of Forest Report, 1999 of Forest Survey of India, there are 1,70,379 villages having forests as a land use.
- (b) Details of statewise number of villages is Annexed.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Yes sir.
- (e) The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages the people's involvement in development and protection of forests. Through the mechanism of Joint Forest Management the local people living in and around the forests are actively involved in protection, conservation and management of forests for environmental needs and meeting their needs of forest produce.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4394 to be answered on 21.04.2003 regarding the details of statewise number of villages having the forests as land use:

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total number of villages	Number	Villages having forest	Forest Area(ha)	Population
--------	----------	--------------------------	--------	------------------------	-----------------	------------

1.	Andhra Pradesh	26,586	5,080	2,566,842	10,674,334
----	----------------	--------	-------	-----------	------------

2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3,649	(1,321)	NA	(273019)
----	-------------------	-------	---------	----	----------

3.	Assam	24,685	2,140	219,322	1,490,401
----	-------	--------	-------	---------	-----------

4.	Bihar	67,513	17,044	2,502,137	11,205,120
----	-------	--------	--------	-----------	------------

5.	Goa	360	138	88,358	232,613
----	-----	-----	-----	--------	---------

6.	Gujarat	18,028	4,732	1,354,765	3,178,244
----	---------	--------	-------	-----------	-----------

7.	Haryana	6,759	90	7,967	127,678
----	---------	-------	----	-------	---------

8.	Himachal Pradesh	16,997	5,994	991,644	1,526,347
----	------------------	--------	-------	---------	-----------

9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,477	(2,670)	NA	(2,255,431)
----	-----------------	-------	---------	----	-------------

10. Karnataka	27,066	7,130	2,738,414	9,309,720
11. Kerala	1,384	317	903,599	4,482,951
12. Madhya Pradesh	71,526	29,294	6,715,840	19,953,453
13. Maharashtra	40,412	15,694	3,165,387	19,043,898
14. Manipur	2,182	(1,850)	NA	(715,738)
15. Meghalya	5,484	(3,927)	NA	(1,007,830)
16. Mizoram	698	(683)	NA	(323,293)
17. Nagaland	1,216	669	490,554	531,285
18. Orissa	46,989	29,302	1,779,953	15,934,768
19. Punjab	12,428	133	30,031	144,057
20. Rajasthan	37,889	7,114	2,109,981	6,780,697
21. Sikkim	447	(305)	NA	(248,693)
22. Tamil Nadu	15,822	1,405	1,919,961	3,113,298
23. Tripura	855	644	567,041	1,594,837
24. Uttar Pradesh	112,803	23,900	3,374,665	23,954,868
25. West Bengal	37,910	8,571	614,682	8,399,279
26. A & Nicobar Islands	504	153	35,485	118,961
27. Chandigarh	25	9	185	20,418
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	71	59	20,702	95,479
29. Daman & Diu	24	6	507	27,148
30. Delhi	199	5	283	13,605
31. Lakshdweep	23	0	0	0
32. Pondicherry	263	0	0	0

Total 587,274 170,379 32,198,305 146,777,463

Note: Figures in brackets are the estimates of Forest Survey of India.