

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1607
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
SETTING UP OF FOREST PROTECTION COMMITTEES
Murmu Shri Rupchand

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

- (a) the names of States and Union Territories where Forest Protection Committees (FPCs) have been set up;
- (b) the activities of these committees and the results achieved therefrom;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up similar committees in other States and Union Territories in near future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) All 28 State Governments in the country have adopted the concept of Joint Forest Management (JFM) under which village-level forest committees are set up.
- (b) These committees are involved in protection, management and development of forests. As on 10.09.2003, approximately 17.33 m ha. forest area was under joint forest management of 84,632 committees in 27 states. Subsequently, Meghalaya State Government has also adopted JFM, and so far 72 JFM Committees have been constituted in the State.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) Joint Forest Management is a voluntary movement based on the principle of `Care and Share`. Union Territories Administration have also been requested to adopt this programme and set up such committees.