

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3921  
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005  
BIOTECH PIRACY  
Chandel Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that huge Biotech Piracy is taking place in the North East which is the hot spot of biodiversity ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has directed the Sikkim Forest Department to seize 3 tones full of Herbarium collected by a Japanese team recently ;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that one Mr. Vojtech Holubee of the CZECH REPUBLIC collected very rare plant seeds from North and West Sikkim Reserve Forest – a restricted area in July, 2003 and has now advertised abroad for sale of the seeds through Website too ;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (f) the steps taken to ensure that the Biotechnical Tourists / Ordinary Tourists visiting Sikkim and the North East do not carry on Biotic Piracy in connivance with travel agents in operation ?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.