

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2478
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006
BILLS AND ORDINANCES
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted for assent of the President an ordinance/Bill providing stringent clauses against sandalwood smuggling;
- (b) if so, the details of other Bills/ordinances passed by various State Governments and sent for the assent of the President;
- (c) the time by when these Bills/ordinances are pending; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for taking the assent of the President alongwith status of each Bill at present?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d): The Kerala Forest (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004 which seeks to regulate cutting/destruction of sandalwood trees, the possession, transport, processing and sale of sandalwood and sandalwood oil was forwarded by the Government of Kerala to the Union Government in December, 2004 for obtaining the instructions of the President under Article 213(1) of the Constitution of India. The said Ordinance is under the consideration of the Union Government in consultation with the State Government. Apart from the said Ordinance, no other Ordinance/Bill on provisions pertaining to prevention of sandalwood smuggling is pending with the Union Government.