

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3615  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004  
DECLARATION OF RAIN FORESTS AS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY  
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) the area of rain forests in the country particularly in Assam at present;
- (b) whether the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has recommended that the areas where population of Hollock Gibbons has dwindled from around 80,000 in 1971-72 to just about 5,000 should be declared as a wildlife sanctuary; and
- (c) if so, the decision taken by the Government on its recommendation?

**Answer**

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

- (a) There are sixteen major Forest Types identified and accepted for forestry purposes in India. The term rain forest is not recognized as one of them, and therefore no data is maintained in this regard.
- (b) No, Sir. As per the report received from the Zoological Survey of India no such recommendation has been made by them.
- (c) Does not arise.