

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3751

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004

THREAT TO WILDLIFE DUE TO ENCROACHMENTS ON FOREST LAND

Chakraborty Shri Ajay

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

(a) whether encroachment on forest land in various forests in West Bengal is posing a threat to endangered wild species; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to stop such encroachments?

Answer

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

(a) 13834.536 hectares of forest land is under encroachment in West Bengal, which is a threat to the habitat of various wildlife species.

(b) The Central Government have, vide their letter No. 7-16/2002-FC dated 3-5-2002, issued detailed guidelines to all the State/UT Governments for eviction of all in-eligible encroachers from the forest lands.