

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1544
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
DEOPAHAR HILLOCK AS RESERVE FOREST
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) whether Deopahar hillock on the NH-39 was declared as a "Reserve Forest" on August 19,1999;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far to maintain it as a Reserve Forest and promote it as a bio-diversity hotspot;
- (c) whether a substantial portion of this reserve has been encroached upon; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to remove the encroachments?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The State Government of Assam has issued notification under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 on 16.8.1999 to initiate the process of declaration of Deopahar Hillock as a Reserved Forest. The area has been identified as Elephant corridor in the management plan of Nambor Wildlife Sanctuary. The area also harbours other wild animal & birds.

(c) & (d) An area of 6.47 ha out of a total area of 133.45 ha is under encroachment. Appropriate action has been taken with a view to evicting the encroachments.