

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3721
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
CLEARING OF VIRGIN FOREST LAND
Charenamei Shri Mani

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

- (a) the area of virgin forest cleared every year for jhum cultivation during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the strategies adopted to tackle clearing and burning of forests particularly in the North-East States;
- (c) whether any timeframe has been fixed to bring the jhum cultivation to a complete halt; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) As per State of Forest Report 2003 the forest cover affected due to Shifting Cultivation in North-Eastern States between the period 2001-2003 is Annexed. The strategies adopted to tackle clearing and burning of forests in North East States are Indian Council for Agricultural Research 3-tier model, Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT), Sloping Watershed Environmental Engineering Technology (SWEET), Nagaland Empowerment of People through Economic Development (NEPED) tree planting model and jhum Project under National Afforestation Programme. There is no time frame fixed to bring the jhum cultivation to a complete halt.