

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2202
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
BIO- DIVERSITY ACT
Senthil Dr. Raman

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

- (a) Whether some of the provisions in the Bio-diversity Act has been criticized from various quarters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken to address these issues in the implementation of the Act;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the passage and working of the Biodiversity Act; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : A few Non-governmental organizations have voiced some concern over not giving enough powers to local Biodiversity Management Committees under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004. In fact, the Act and the Rules have vested enough powers to the Local Management Committees. As per Section 14 of the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, the National Biodiversity Authority shall consult the concerned local Biodiversity Management Committee before granting any permission for access to biological resources and associated knowledge to any user agency. The local community representatives in this Committee are empowered to exercise their wisdom and rights while consenting or disagreeing to any such request.

(b) & (d) : There is no such proposal at present to review the passage and working of the Biological Diversity Act.