

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3036  
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007  
UNSCIENTIFIC AFFORESTATION  
Barman Shri Ranen

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

- (a) whether environmental balance has been disturbed due to the unscientific afforestation of Vilayati Babool (Predpus Juliflora) in India;
- (b) whether there has been adverse impact on wild animals as a result thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

(a) No, Sir. However, the Prosopis juliflora grows in adverse climatic and edaphic conditions such as highly alkaline soil and dry areas. This species also spread very fast on good soil through natural seed dispersal, even without doing plantations.

(b) & (c) No, Sir. However, in some of the areas, it affects the grasslands which is the habitat of wild animals such as Black buck and Nilgai. The Government of India is providing assistance to the States/ Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for habitat improvement.