

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3493
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
FOREST COVER IN HIMALAYAN REGION
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take steps to prevent the problem of erosion of forest land and reduction of forest cover in the Himalayan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the proposal received for conservation of forest wealth in Himalayan region, State-wise; and
- (d) the action Government proposes to take to create awareness among the people of Himalayan region in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing three major schemes, namely National Natural Resource Management Scheme (NNRMS), support to G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), and Integrated Eco-development Research Programme (IERP) where under the assessment and mapping of Himalayan forest resources and evolving integrated management strategies for their conservation is undertaken. In addition, the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme of the Ministry provides financial support to Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) in the country for participatory development of forest resources under the framework of Joint Forest Management (JFM).
- (c) As on 31.03.2006, 237 FDA project proposals have been received from the 11 Himalayan States. Out of the total proposals, 217 FDA projects have been approved under the NAP Scheme. The State-wise details are given in the Annexure.
- (d) The GBPIHED undertakes knowledge dissemination of the relevant Research and Development activities by organizing on-site training programmes, conferences, workshops, meetings, awareness camps, etc.