

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2696
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
AFFORESTATION AND SEIZURE OF TIMBER IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
Charenamei Shri Mani

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that since the formation of the High Powered Committee, the forest cover in the entire North Eastern Region has further depleted;
- (b) if so, the data of forest cover in each State of the North Eastern Region for the period 1999 to 2004; and
- (c) the figures of timber seized within the same period with separate seizure figures for timber of Myanmar origin and that of timber of Indian origin?

Answer

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

(a) The High Powered Committee was constituted on 06.03.1997 pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 04.03.1997. Forest cover of the country is assessed by Forest Survey of India on a two-year cycle using satellite data. As per the last two assessments made in the years 1999 and 2001, the forest cover in North Eastern Region is as under:

(Area in sq. km)

1999 Assessment	2001 Assessment
-----------------	-----------------

1,66,917	1,69,366
----------	----------

(b) The State-wise data of forest cover of North Eastern Region as per the State of Forest Reports of 1999 and 2001 is given in Annexure-I

(c) The figures of timber seized as reported by Government of Assam is as under:

(in cubic meters)

1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

Myanmar origin	Indian origin	Myanmar origin	Indian origin	Myanmar origin	Indian origin	Myanmar origin	Indian origin	Myanmar origin	Indian origin
----------------	---------------	----------------	---------------	----------------	---------------	----------------	---------------	----------------	---------------

Nil	9556	Nil	12459	Nil	11619	Nil	8975	Nil	6080
-----	------	-----	-------	-----	-------	-----	------	-----	------

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2696 FOR 21/03/2005 REGARDING AFFORESTATION AND SEIZURE OF TIMBER IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

The State-wise data of forest cover of North Eastern Region as per the State of Forest Reports of 1999 and 2001

(Area in sq. kms.)

S.No. Name of the State 1999 Assessment 2001 Assessment

1. Arunachal Pradesh 68,847 68,045

2. Assam 23,688 27,714

3. Manipur 17,384 16,926

4. Meghalaya 15,633 15,584

5. Mizoram 18,338 17,494

6. Nagaland 14,164 13,345

7 Tripura 5,745 7,065

Total 1,66,917 1,69,366