

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:34  
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000  
DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS IN ORISSA  
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;HEMA GAMANG

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

- (a) whether the National Remote Sensing Agency photographs mapping have indicated destruction of forests and tree cover of Orissa during last three decades;
- (b) if so, whether any survey or study has been conducted to correlate with weather related disturbance during the last three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action proposed by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

- (a) Yes Sir, Forest Survey of India has been assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987. In this period, forest cover of Orissa has declined from 53253 sq.km to 47033 sq.km.
- (b) The effect of deforestation on environment and weather in the country has not been qualified.
- (c) Does not arise.