

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2162
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU

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

- (a) whether approval of Union Government is necessary for diversion of forest land to non- forest land as per the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- (b) if so, the number of such proposals sent by different States particularly Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and current year, till date, State-wise;
- (c) the number of proposals, out of them cleared and pending as on date;
- (d) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared alongwith the steps taken for their expeditious clearance; and
- (e) the names of the projects for which the Government have permitted diversion of forest land alongwith the details of land diverted for the purpose during the said period, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Yes Sir. As per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, prior approval of the Central Government is necessary for diversion of any forest land for non-forestry purpose. More than 3000 such proposals have been submitted by various State Governments including Andhra Pradesh during 1998 to January, 2001. A detailed list of all projects will be lengthy and cumbersome. A brief abstract of this information indicating their present status, State-wise is annexed.

About 4.5% proposals are under process with the Ministry for final decision. The Ministry is committed to clear all such proposals, which are complete in all respects, within 90 days. About 16% proposals are incomplete and no decision could be taken on these proposals as wanting details have been sought from the State Governments. As such no time limit can be fixed for clearance of projects.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2162 ON ` DIVERSIC FOREST LAND ` FOR 12.03.2001.

STATE NO. OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED SANCTI-ONED REJEC-TED
REJECTED FOR WANT OF INFORMATION RETURNED/ WITHDRWAN BY STATES
UNDER CONSIDERATION OF MINISTRY WANTING DETAILS SOUGHT FROM THE STATES

Assam	52	19	24	0	3	6	0
Arunachal Pr.	18	17	0	0	0	1	0
Andhra Pradesh	68	38	14	7	1	4	4
A N Island	13	8	0	0	0	0	5
Bihar	77	41	0	23	2	4	7
D N H	70	46	0	0	0	2	22
Gujarat	274	201	5	4	3	3	58
Haryana	159	117	4	9	0	0	29
H P	198	79	11	21	5	7	75
Manipur	3	2	0	0	1	0	0
Meghalya	16	14	0	0	2	0	0
Mizoram	8	4	0	0	0	2	2
Chandigarh	10	6	0	0	0	0	4
Delhi	3	1	0	0	1	0	1
Goa	9	5	1	1	0	1	1
Punjab	344	210	9	36	0	19	70

Orissa 101 60 3 5 5 14 14
M P 156 83 26 17 5 10 15
Maharashtra 310 172 18 19 1 37 63
Rajasthan 131 73 13 4 7 16 18
Karnataka 93 45 9 14 3 5 17
Kerala 29 14 0 5 1 1 8
Tamil Nadu 54 44 4 4 0 0 2
Tripura 79 71 3 0 3 1 1
Sikkim 16 16 0 0 0 0 0
West Bengal 11 5 2 0 1 1 2
Uttar Pradesh 714 596 27 6 21 2 62

TOTAL 3016 1987 173 175 65 136 480