

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:89  
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002  
VACANT POSTS  
A.K. PREMAJAM;SAMIK LAHIRI

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

- (a) whether a large number of front line posts in the Department of Forests are lying vacant in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether inadequate strength of forest guards causes large scale encroachment on Forest land and also increases poaching;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to lift the present ban on recruitment in this sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): The State-wise information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) & (e) The Central Government has already asked all the State Governments to fill the vacancies of front line field staff by delegating powers for making appointments to the officials of the Wildlife Wing.