

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2239  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000  
PROCESSING OF SHAHTOOSH SHAWLS  
ALI MOHMAD NAIK

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the problems faced by thousands of craftsmen and individuals engaged in the processing/marketing of the world famous `Shahtoosh Shawls`;
- (b) if so, whether this matter was taken up by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir at several times in the past stressing that in the absence of adequate proof regarding derivation of Shahtoosh wool from slaughtered animals, processing and trade of Shahtoosh Wool should continue to be allowed as before;
- (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard;
- (d) whether fresh Committee has been constituted with experts to verify the truth regarding derivation of wool from slaughtered animals; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Jammu & Kashmir Government is now quite convinced that `Shahtoosh` is derived by killing the Tibetan Antelopes.They have even made a public declaration of their intention to ban Shahtoosh trade.
- (c), (d) & (e) Does not arise.