

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2796

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008

FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENT ORIENTED FOREST SECTOR

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to focus on environment – oriented forest sector and a strong national policy on forests and land use plans which are essential to achieve ecological sustainability;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether various international environmental groups have asked the Government to implement the various Acts concerning the forest use; and
- (d) if so, the views of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. However, the principal aim of the existing Forest Policy is to maintain and ensure environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium which are vital for sustenance of all lifeforms, human, animal and plant and also aim to achieve minimum one-third of total land area under forest or tree cover.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.