

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3370
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
JOINT FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THEIR MANDATE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Joint Forest Management Committees constituted in the country, State-wise including Karnataka;
- (b) whether there is any plan to entrust them with the work pertaining to protection, management and development of forests;
- (c) if so, the details of the same; and
- (d) the extent to which the success has been achieved in this regard in the country, particularly in Karnataka?

Answer

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

(a) Based on the reports received from State/UT Governments, the number of Joint forest Management Committees (JFMCs) constituted in the country upto March 2006 is 1,06,482. The State wise details are given in Annexure. The number of JFMCs reported in Karnataka is 6575 as on March, 2008.

(b) & (c) Joint forest Management aims to involve local communities in regeneration, protection and management of forest areas. The extent to which the local communities are involved is as per the details in respective State Resolutions in this regard. The Government order no. FEE 50 FAP 2000 dated 19-6-2002 by Karnataka Government envisages partnership of JFM Committees in planning, protection, conservation and development of degraded forest areas and other Government waste lands. The said order further envisages that JFM Committees shall play important role in enriching the forests by preventing encroachment, forest fires, illicit cutting, smuggling of forest produce, poaching of wild animals and regulating grazing and such other functions which are needed to develop forest resources.

Accordingly, village micro-plans are prepared and JFM Committees are entrusted with the work of protection, management and development of Joint managed forests.

(d) In Karnataka, during the year 2002-03 to 2006-07, plantations in 52405 ha. have been raised through JFMCs under National Afforestation Programme scheme. The afforestation work done under JFM areas is yielding good results in Karnataka State.