

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3449

ANSWERED ON:20.08.2004

SETTING UP OF ENVIRONMENTAL COURTS

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Law Commission has recommended for setting up of `Environment Courts` in all the States to deal with environmental issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether all the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and time by which these courts are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI K.VENKATAPATHY)

(a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. The Law Commission, in its 186th Report, has inter alia recommended establishment of separate `Environment Courts' in each State, consisting of judicial and scientific experts in the field of environment, for dealing with environmental disputes, besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under the various Pollution Control Laws. The Commission has also recommended for repeal of the National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995, and the National Environmental Appellate Authority Act, 1997. The report is under examination, as it may affect the amendments in other statutes like Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.