

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1880
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
REPORT OF ASSOCHAM ON BAMBOO USE INSTEAD OF WOOD
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government have gone through the report submitted by Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) wherein it has been stated that by using bamboo instead of wood, seven thousand crores of rupees can be saved;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take steps in the light of this useful proposal for conservation of forests and ecological balance in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that bamboo has a very high potential as a viable substitute to wood and other traditional material for housing, joining, furniture and other building materials.
 - (b) To promote substitution of wood by bamboo, the Government of India have launched the National Mission on Bamboo Application under the supervision of Ministry of Science & Technology. The Mission is actively engaged in promoting and disseminating technology for use of bamboo and is also encouraging entrepreneurs to establish bamboo based industrial units with the help of available technology.
 - (c) & (d) Yes, Sir. in order to conserve natural Forest Resources, Government of India have initiated National Bamboo Mission at Central level to promote bamboo plantations and their application as wood alternatives. institute like Indian Plywood.
- Industries Research and Trflinn Institute & Forests is actively engaged in promoting the value added products like Bamboo Mat Board, Bamboo Mat Corrugated Sheet, Bamboo Wood doors from bamboo and their applications for different uses as mentioned at (a).