

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1006  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010  
DAMAGE TO BIODIVERSITY  
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether some States in the country are facing threat of damage to its biodiversity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the funds allocated for the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan period, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b). No specific reports have been received from State/UT Governments except Kerala State Biodiversity Board regarding damage to its biodiversity. However, as per the National Biodiversity Action Plan, the biodiversity, both floral and faunal, in the country is under threats mainly due to habitat fragmentation, shrinking genetic diversity, invasive alien species, declining forest resources, climate change and desertification, encroachments, over exploitation of resources due to pressure of increasing population, urbanization and diversion of land for developmental projects, etc.

(c) Some important steps taken by the Government for conservation of biodiversity of the country include survey and inventorization of floral and faunal resources; assessment of forest cover to develop an accurate database for planning and monitoring; establishment of a Protected Area Network; designating Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems; conservation of ecologically fragile areas such as mangroves, wetlands and coral reefs; implementing species-oriented conservation programmes; ex-situ conservation through setting up of botanic gardens, zoos and gene banks; and enactment of the Biological Diversity Act in 2002, under which a National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards have been set up for implementing the provisions of the Act.

(d) The allocation of funds for the biodiversity conservation related schemes/programmes of the Ministry for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 3653.98 crores. The expenditure during 2007-08 and 2008-09 has been Rs. 505.90 crores and Rs.684.73 crores, respectively. The allocation for the year 2009-10 is Rs. 783.66 crores. For the remaining period of the Eleventh Five Year Plan period, an allocation of Rs. 1679.69 crores approximately, is available.