

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:195  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
BIO-DIVERSITY OF WESTERN GHATS  
Rajesh Shri M. B.;Thakor Shri Jagdish

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

- (a) whether the Government has drawn up an Action Plan for the conservation of bio-diversity of the Western Ghats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the areas of the Western Ghats likely to be covered, State-wise;
- (c) the criteria/norms adopted for inclusion of these areas; and
- (d) the funds proposed to be allocated for this Action Plan?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.195 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.3.2010 REGARDING BIO-DIVERSITY OF WESTERN GHATS BY S/SHRI M.B.RAJESH AND JAGDISH THAKOR

(a) No, Sir. The Government has not drawn up any action plan for the conservation of biodiversity of the Western Ghats. The Government has however, prepared a National Biodiversity Action Plan in 2008. This Action Plan describes the major threats and constraints facing biodiversity conservation and identifies action points for conserving biodiversity of the country.

Given the ecological significance and sensitivity of the Western Ghats region, the Government has recently constituted a Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel to assess the current status of ecology of the region, to demarcate and recommend areas within the region which need to be notified as ecologically sensitive and to suggest measures for conservation of the Western Ghats region.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.