

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1594
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
CONVERSION OF FOREST VILLAGES INTO REVENUE VILLAGES
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) the number of forest villages in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to convert these forest villages into revenue villages including Madhya Pradesh;
- (c) the time by which these forest villages will be notified as revenue villages; and
- (d) the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d): Of the 2,474 forest villages, spread over 12 States, 514 forests villages including 315 villages of Madhya Pradesh have, so far, been converted into revenue villages under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The details are given in Annexures 'A and B'. The conversion of forest villages into revenue villages involves de-reservation of forest land, which has been restrained by the Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 13-11-2000 in W.P. (Civil) No. 337 of 1995. The State/UT Governments are required to obtain prior approval of the Supreme Court to convert forest villages into revenue villages.