

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:491  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010  
ROLE OF PANCHAYATS IN AFFORESTATION  
Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal for giving Panchayats a central role in the afforestation and forest protection scheme with active participation of tribals to counter Maoist insurgency; and
- (b) If so, the details of the modalities being worked out in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) There is no specific proposal in the Ministry of Environment and Forests for giving Panchayats a central role in the afforestation and forest protection scheme with active participation of tribals to counter Maoist insurgency.
- (b) Does not arise.