

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:595  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010  
ESTABLISHMENT OF NGT  
Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been established/constituted;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria that will be followed for selection of Chairman and other Members of NGT;
- (d) whether the said Tribunal is also likely to have the power to decide the matters/disputes related to the States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 has been enacted by the Parliament. The establishment of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and commencement of its sittings is expected to take some time.

(c) The said Act provides that a person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Chairperson or Judicial Member unless he is, or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court of India or Chief Justice of a High Court. Besides, a person who is or has been a Judge of the High Court shall also be qualified to be appointed as a Judicial Member.

For the appointment of an Expert Member, a person should have degree in Master of Science (in physical sciences or life sciences) with a Doctorate degree or Master of Engineering or Master of Technology including an experience of fifteen years in the relevant field including five years practical experience in the field of environment and forests (including pollution control, hazardous substance management), environment impact assessment, climate change management, biological diversity management and forest conservation) in a reputed National level institution; or has administrative experience of fifteen years including experience of five years in dealing with environmental matters in the Central or a State Government or in a reputed National or State level institution.

(d) & (e): The Tribunal has been vested with powers to have jurisdiction over all the civil cases where substantial question relating to environment including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment is involved. The Tribunal has been empowered to settle disputes under seven environmental statutes and also to adjudicate on the matters relating to relief and compensation to the victims of pollution and other environmental damage including restitution of damaged environment and property.