

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4814  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN NAXAL AFFECTED AREAS  
Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has undertaken or proposes to undertake development projects in the naxal affected districts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided for the same;
- (c) the details of the projects pending for approval presently;
- (d) whether a meeting was convened by his Ministry in July-August, 2010 in Delhi to take stock of development projects;
- (e) if so, the salient features of the deliberations; and
- (f) the follow-up action taken including funds made available for the purpose?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The Ministry has not undertaken any development project separately in naxal affected districts of the Country. Hence, provision of funds and pending projects does not arise. However, the Ministry has proposed various activities in 35 worst naxal affected districts during a consultative meeting of 23.07.2010 and 07.08.2010 including the following:-

(i) Initiative for modernization of Forest Departments on the lines of Police Department to strengthen the department for taking up various developmental activities.

(ii) Tribal youth to be recruited at the cutting edge level to play a role of Community Foresters or Para-Foresters under Green India Mission and Compensatory Afforestation fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

(iii) Activities like capacity building of tribal population for sustainable practices for harvesting and value addition to Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and also to give minimum support price on the lines of agricultural produce.

(d) to (f) A National Conference on role of forestry administration in 35 worst Leftwing Extremism Affected areas was convened on 07th August, 2010 at New Delhi to plan strategy and possible role of Forest Departments in these areas. During the Conference the issues such as defreezing of ban on recruitments to Group 'C' and 'D' posts, synergy between Gram Sabhas and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs), strengthening of forest infrastructure for frontline staffs including improvement of mobility, and increased role of Forest Departments in other developmental activities like improving school infrastructure, drinking water supply, sanitation and health, road communication, etc., were highlighted.