

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1691

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

AMENDMENT IN INDIAN FOREST ACT, 1927

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa; Das Gupta Shri Gurudas; Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal; Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram; Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao; Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh; Owaisi Shri Asaduddin; Sule Supriya; Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad; Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to review the Indian Forest Act, 1927;
- (b) if so, the details of the major findings in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to accommodate the concerns of all the stakeholders including tribal people living inside the forest areas in the newly proposed legislation, if any;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of all the stakeholders while implementing the existing forest laws?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Yes Sir. There is a proposal presently to amend sub para (3) of Section 68 (Power to Compound Offences) of Indian Forest Act, 1927 to help the forest officers in proper protection and conservation of forest including reducing degradation, etc. To accommodate the concerns of all the stockholders including tribal people living inside the forest areas, the Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) with Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) jointly constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. N.C. Saxena.