

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2820
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011
PROTECTION OF SHISHUM TREES
Patel Shri Lalubhai

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

- (a) whether the Shishum trees grown on public and private land in various parts of the country particularly in Diu & Daman have been afflicted by an unknown disease resulting in drying up of the trees leading to revenue loss;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has formulated/propose to formulate a special programme to protect the Shishum trees;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide any special assistance to the farmers who have suffered losses as a result thereof;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

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

- (a) The shisham (*Dalbergia sissoo*) trees grown on public and private land in various parts of the country are affected by wilt and root rot diseases which are caused by *Fursaram solani* and *Ganoderma incidum*, respectively. As informed by the Forest Department, Daman & Diu there is no report of mortality of shishum (*D. sissoo*) in the Union Territory.
- (b) & (c) FRI, Dehradun has formulated and proposed integrated disease management programme for shishum trees, which have been communicated to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of affected States such as Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The same has been put up on the website of Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education. FRI is also educating the farmers and foresters for the management of shisham mortality through the training programmes conducted at FRI and its Van Vidyan Kendras.
- (d) to (f) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.