

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3597

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009

LOSS OF TREES FORESTS COVER DUE TO DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether a large number of trees were cut or being cut as part of various road and developmental projects undertaken by the Government in Orissa, Punjab and Uttrakhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated number of trees which have been cut or likely to fell as a result of these projects;
- (c) the funds allocated for afforestation to compensate the loss of trees and forest cover during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (d) the number of trees planted and the total area covered under tree plantation as part of compulsory afforestation programme during the said period; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure and monitor afforestation?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Trees growing on the forest land diverted for road and other developmental projects are sometimes felled, as per the necessity of the project. The State Forest Department of the concerned States/Union Territories maintain records of such felling of trees. So far, the Central Government has approved 10,744 proposals pertaining to roads and other development projects involving diversion of 3.14 lakh ha of forest land.

(c) to (e): During the last three years (since April 2007), no compensatory afforestation work was undertaken due to non-availability of funds, earmarked for compensatory afforestation (CA), to the States/UTs including the state of Orissa, Punjab and Uttrakhand. To resume the compensatory afforestation in the States/UTs, comprehensive guidelines on the state CAMPA have been framed and communicated to them. The guidelines provide for the establishment of National CAMPA Advisory Council to ensure and monitor compensatory afforestation.