

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3376
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
BAN ON EUCALYPTUS PLANTATION
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports about the disadvantages of Eucalyptus trees as they led to depletion of ground water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to impose ban on the plantation of Eucalyptus trees in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): As per the study conducted by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), under Ministry of Environment & Forest, Eucalyptus plantations do not lower down the ground water table. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has also conducted studies and reported that there are several species of Eucalyptus available for plantation in India and they differ in their water requirement from each other and most of them are not known to absorb more water from ground water table. There are some varieties of Eucalyptus species which are suitable for drier regions and some species like E. Camaldulensis and E. Tereticirnis are reported to absorb more water from ground water table at some places particularly in water logged areas.

There is no proposal with the Government as of now to ban plantation of Eucalyptus trees in the Country.