

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:250  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
CHECK ON FELLING OF TREES  
De Dr. Ratna;Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) the present status of forest cover in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether there has been a rise in the unauthorised felling of trees in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) the funds sanctioned, released and incurred for the purpose during the said period; and
- (e) the action taken / being taken by the Government to conserve the forest cover and further afforestation in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 250 by Shri P. Karunakaran and Dr. Ratna De (Nag) due for reply on 12.12.2011.

(a) Forest cover of the States / UTs as per 'India State of Forest Report 2009' published by Forest Survey of India is given in Annexure - I.

(b) No Sir. The Ministry has not received information regarding rise in the unauthorized felling of trees in the country.

(c) The details of the unauthorized felling of trees in various States as per information available in this Ministry from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is given at Annexure II. Major reasons for unauthorized tree felling are felling trees for use and sale as timber, clearing forest land for unauthorized cultivation and for use as fire wood.

(d) The details of the funds released as grant-in-aid for strengthening of forest protection infrastructure, fire protection, demarcation of forest boundaries, construction of facilities for frontline staff, communication etc. under Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) during the year 2008-09 to 2011-12 to various States is given at Annexure - III.

(e) Besides supporting forest protection measures under Intensification of Forest Management Schemes (IFMS) as indicated in part (d) above, the Ministry of Environment and Forests is providing funds to the States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas through people's participation in the country. The State-wise details of funds released to the States under the National Afforestation Programme Scheme during last three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) are given at Annexure - IV.

Besides National Afforestation Programme, various Central Schemes / Programmes like Thirteenth Finance Commission Grants for conservation and development of forests, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNRGS) and State Schemes have component of afforestation / tree planting.