

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:720
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012
CONTROL OF FOREST RESOURCES
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring a proposal that the control of forest resources should be shared with local communities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard including Karnataka?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the forests are managed with participation of local communities on the basis of principle of "Care and Share". A Joint Forests Management Resolution for participation of local communities in management and protection of forests was issued by this Ministry on 1st June, 1990. Subsequently, resolutions for Joint Forest Management (JFM) have also been formulated by various State Governments including Karnataka. There are around 1.05 lakh JFM Committees managing around 2,31,365 sq kms. of forest area, for which members of JFMC get predetermined share of benefits arising from forests with local communities as per guidelines issued by the State Governments.