

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:740
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012
CHECK ON FELLING OF TREES
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether the incidents of felling of trees has been increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the provisions conditions set forth for cutting of trees and the violation made regarding these provisions during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The procedure for felling of trees on forest land is laid down in approved Forest Working Plans whereas for non-forest areas various States/UTs have Tree Preservation Acts which govern procedure for cutting of trees. Details of illegal felling of trees for year 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2008-09 are enclosed as annexure.

(c) State Governments take protection measures to arrest decline in forest cover for which the Central Government provides funds to the States/ UTs under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) for protection of the forests. These funds are utilized for patrolling of the forests, establishment of camps, building fire watch tower, creation and maintenance of fire line, forest fire control, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening forest infrastructure etc. Under the "Joint Forest Management" (JFM) in the last two decades, people's participation in forest management and conservation has helped to reduce degradation and illegal removal of trees from forests.