

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3967
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012
CLEANING OF FORESTS
Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether the Government has laid down consistent and coherent framework for analysing the net welfare cost of cleaning the forests in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof,
- (c) whether the Government has any database showing the carbon accumulated in the important forest belts of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No, Sir.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Forest Survey of India is having requisite database for estimating carbon stock in India's forests through its regular forest inventory programme and forest cover/forest type mapping work. During 2008-10, as a part of Second National Communication to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) carbon estimation in India's forest was carried out for the period 1994 & 2004 respectively, summary of which is reproduced hereunder:

Components	Carbon Stock		Carbon Stock Change
	in forest	in forest	
	land in	land in	
	1994 (Mts)	2004 (Mts)	
Above Ground	1784	2101	317
Biomass			
Below Ground	563	663	100
Biomass			
Dead wood	19	25	6
Litter	104	121	17
Soil	3601	3753	152
Total	6071	6663	592

The information is available for the country as a whole and further breakups according to important forests belts are not available.