

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7201  
ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012  
CONSERVATION OF FOREST WEALTH  
Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Forest Conservation Committee for the protection and conservation of forest wealth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check the destruction of forest wealth in the country?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has no proposal to constitute a Forest Conservation Committee for the protection and conservation of forest wealth in the country.
- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) Protection of the forests is the responsibility of State Forest Departments. The illegal felling in the forest area is controlled by, patrolling by the forest personnel, establishment of base camps in vulnerable areas, deployment of strike forces, involvement of people through Joint Forest Protection and Management Committees (JFMCs). Number of check nakas have been installed in vulnerable areas to prevent illegal movement of timber. The Ministry of Environment and Forests under its CSS: "Intensification of Forest Management Scheme" releases funds to support State Governments in their efforts to protect forest wealth from: fire, encroachment and eradication of forest invasive species etc.