

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1581  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012  
CHECK ON ILLEGAL FELLING OF TREES  
Choudhary Shri Harish;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

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

- (a) whether the Government has laid down any provision in regard to cutting of trees in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of violations made under the above provisions during the last three years and the current years State-wise;
- (d) the action taken by the Government on these violations during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the compliance of these rules; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) Cutting of trees in forest areas is done in accordance with approved management/working plans as per Government policy. Unauthorised cutting of trees in forest areas in the country is regulated by the Indian Forest Act, 1927(with State Amendments) and rules made thereunder. Cutting of trees from non-forest areas are regulated by separate state Acts promulgated for the purpose.
- (c) The number of Trees illegally felled in forest areas of the country in the last three years, and the current year, State-wise is annexed.
- (d) to (f) Action is taken for violation under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927 and relevant State Acts which includes prosecution and compounding of offence, seizure of illegally felled material and vehicles, tools and other articles used to commit the offence. Forest being a concurrent subject, management of forests lies with the State Government, details of action taken in cases of violation is not collected at the level of the Ministry. Information about violations of tree cutting regulations in non-forest area is also not collected at the level of the Ministry.