

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1087
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
CHECK ON EXTINCTION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS
Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) whether Government has noticed that many species of plants and animals have become extinct due to construction of dams on Indus, the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers in the country;
- (b) if so, whether hectares of forest cover in the Himalayan region is on the verge of depletion due to construction of these dams;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)to(d) The impact on different species of plants and animals during execution of works related to construction of dams on the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra rivers and their tributaries have been reported. So far, 27063.86 ha of forest land have been diverted under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of dams on River Indus, the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers and their tributaries. During consideration of proposals under the provisions of Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, detailed impact assessment studies for impact of these dams on different species of plants and animals are carried out and measures for mitigating adverse impact are prescribed under Environment management plan for implementation. These measures are site and project specific for different species of plants and animals.