

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:992
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
EXTINCTION OF TREES AND SPECIES
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

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

- (a) the details of the endangered species of plants and trees identified and the number of plants and trees out of them which are on the verge of extinction in the country;
- (b) whether illegal trade of such plants and trees is going on; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) Out of 19,156 species of vascular plants (Angiosperms, Gymnosperms, Pteridophytes) so far recorded from the country, 1236 species belong to different threatened categories like Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, etc. Out of these, 17 species of plants are considered as possibly extinct as they have not been collected from wild for more than last fifty years :

1. *Isoetes dixitii* Shende,
2. *Isoetes sampthkumarii* L.N. Rao,
3. *Selaginella cataractarum* Alston,
4. *Lastreopsis wattii* (Bedd.) C. Chr.,
5. *Ophiorrhiza brunonis* Wight & Arn.,
6. *Ophiorrhiza caudata* C. Fischer,
7. *Ophiorrhiza radicans* Gardn.,
8. *Wenlandia angustifolia* Wight,
9. *Sterculia khasiana* Deb,
10. *Carex repanda* C.B. Clarke,
11. *Eragrostis rottleri* Stapf ,
12. *Eriochrysis rangacharii* C.B. Clarke,
13. *Dipcadi concanense* (Dalz.) Baker,
14. *Dipcadi reidii* Deb & Dasgupta,
15. *Urginea polyphylla* Hook. f.,
16. *Corypha taliera* Roxb.,
17. *Hedychium marginatum* C.B. Clarke

(b) and (c) No report on illegal trade of the aforesaid species have been brought to the notice of this Ministry.