

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:197  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013  
DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND  
Biju Shri P. K.;Sampath Shri Anirudhan

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any provision that diversion of forest land for developmental activities require prior approval of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such proposals received by the Government during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the number of proposals cleared and rejected during the said period and the details of the pending projects along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which all the proposals are likely to be granted clearance by the Government?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.197 BY ADV. A.SAMPATH AND SHRI P.K. BIJU REGARDING 'DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND' DUE FOR REPLY ON 11.03.2013.

(a) The diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes including developmental purposes require prior approval of the Central Government under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) & (c) The details of proposals received by the Central Government in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 along with details of projects approved/ rejected by the Central Government is given in Annexure I. Details of proposals under consideration of the Central Government is given in Annexure II:

Detailed site inspection is required in proposals involving more than 100 ha of forest land. Quite often the proposals received are not complete in all respects and the Central Government has to seek further details/ documents from the concerned State Governments. These are the main reasons of pendency of the proposals.

(d) The proposals for diversion of forest land are processed in the Ministry of Environment & Forests and then considered by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Ministry takes a decision after considering the recommendations of the Committee. Proposals involving 100 ha or more forest land are also inspected in detail by the officers of the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. The Ministry takes prompt action to consider the projects for forest clearance when proposals complete in all respects are received.