

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5406
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013
EFFECT OF DEFORESTATION ON WILDLIFE
Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a note that wildlife in some States including Uttar Pradesh is being immensely affected due to deforestation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) In view of the various forms of biotic pressures on forests, adverse impact on wildlife cannot be ruled out. However, the Ministry has not received reports of large scale deforestation in States including that in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to protect the wildlife from the adverse affect of deforestation includes:

- i. Enactment of legislations like Wildlife (protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 etc.
- ii. The diversion of forest land for non-forestry activities, including resulting deforestation thereof, is regulated under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, and rules made thereunder. The provisions require prior approval of the Central Government before such diversion.
- iii. Any such diversion of forest land from Protected Areas like National Parks and Sanctuaries also require approval by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and consideration by the Standing Committee of the National Board for and is subject to such conditions as recommended by the Standing Committee, to mitigate the adverse impacts on the conservation and protection of wildlife.
- iv. As informed by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, directions are issued from time to time to field officials to maintain vigil to prevent any damage to forest and wildlife and are reviewed at regular intervals at different levels.