

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:136
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013
IMPORT OF FOREST PRODUCES
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the item-wise details of import of forest produces along with the reasons during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to explore options for the said import;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) The item-wise details of import of forest produce are given in Annexure I. The main reason for import of forest produce is the gap in demand and supply of forest produce at national level.
- (b), (c) & (d) The Ministry has taken various initiatives including afforestation to bridge the gap in demand and supply. Afforestation in the country is taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Bamboo Mission (NBM), 13th Finance Commission and also under different State Plan/ Non- Plan Schemes including externally aided projects. National Afforestation Programme (NAP) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme for afforestation and tree plantation and eco-restoration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country through people's participation. An amount of Rs.2500 crores has been approved for NAP in the 12th Five Year Plan. The details of funds released during last five years (2007-08 to 2011-12) and 2012-13 are given in Annexure II.