

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1127

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013

FELLING OF TREES

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

- (a) whether the Government has laid down any provision in regard to cutting/ felling of trees in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of trees illegally felled during the last three years and the current year, State/UT/year-wise; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a)& (b) As per the existing policy of the Government of India, trees within forest areas are felled as per provisions under approved Forest Working Plans of the concerned Forest Division. Government of India has also issued advisory to State/UT Governments regarding regulation of felling of trees in Non-Forest areas. Diversion of forest land for any non-forestry purpose is governed by the provision of forest (conservation) Act 1980.

(C) State-wise details of trees illegally felled, as per the reports received from States/UTs is given in annexure.

(d) States Governments take action against offenders involved in an illegal felling of trees as per law. Government of India provides Grants-in-aid to State/UT Governments under Intensification of Forest Management Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to supplement the efforts of the States for forest protection. Funds under the scheme are utilized for patrolling of the forests, establishment of field camps, building fire watch towers, creation and maintenance of fire line, forest fire control, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening of forest infrastructure etc.