

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3153
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
SEQUENCING OF DNA
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) whether scientists are working on projects for sequencing the Deoxyribo- Nucleic Acid (DNA) of a wide variety of trees, fishes, insects and animals as part of a project for barcoding life;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the parameters adopted in this regard; and
- (d) the present status of the project?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Yes, Sir. But, Ministry of Environment & Forests does not have a specific programme in this area. However, Wildlife Institute of India has undertaken a project "Barcoding Anurans of India" supported by the Department of Biotechnology in 2007. This ongoing project has been able to sequence the DNA of a large number of frog species from different parts of the country and screening for the DNA barcode is carried out.