

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:489

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL BIO DIVERSITY GARDEN

Thomas Shri P. T.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received a proposal submitted by Kerala State Bio-diversity Board for the establishment of a `National Bio-diversity Garden and Traditional Knowledge Centre` in the Munnar region of Idukki district in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status 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) Yes, Sir

(b) & (c) The Government has received a proposal regarding financial support for setting up a National Biodiversity Garden and Traditional Knowledge Centre in Munnar region of Idukki District, Kerala to conserve the endemic biodiversity and expose it to the visiting tourists from India and abroad. The total estimate for this project is Rs. 25.638 crores for 4 years.

The proposal was sent to the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) for consideration. Consequently Chairman, NBA visited the proposed site and discussed further details on the subject with officials from the Kerala State Biodiversity Board and the State Government. The matter is being examined.