GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:510 ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013 REVISION IN LEVY CHARGES Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to revise the levy charged from project developers for using forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue of contention between the Union and States has been sorted out in regard to Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Indian Institute of Forest Management has been asked to submit report within three months for revising levy; and

(f) if so, the fund likely to be generated after revising levy from project developers?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) assigned a study to the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal to make recommendations on revision of the rates of Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land diverted for non-forest purpose.

The IIFM, Bhopal completed the said study and submitted a report to the MoEF. The MoEF sought comments of the States, Union Territories and concerned Ministries and Departments in the Central Government on the said report. A copy of the report of the said study was also placed on website of the MoEF for comments of other stakeholders.

The MoEF, based on the report of the said study and comments thereon of various stakeholders, is preparing a proposal for revision of rates of NPV for forests of different types/categories and file it before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The revised rates of NPV for forests of different types/ categories will be finalized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Actual extent of revenue to be generated after revising the NPV rates will be known only after the revised rates of NPV are finalized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Presently, funds available with the Ad-hoc CAMPA are released to State Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management Authorities in accordance with the direction issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their interim Order dated 10th July 2010 in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad versus Union of India and others.