

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2856  
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014  
PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT  
Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Krishnaswamy Shri M.

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

(a) whether the Government has assessed that felling of trees in Aravallis is disturbing the environment of the area and is unduly benefiting the estate developers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to protect the environment in Aravallis?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Dr. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) No such specific assessment has been done by the Ministry. However, with the aim of protecting the forest land in the Mangar Bani Area of Faridabad District, Haryana State, the Ministry has issued directions to Government of Haryana that the Mangar Bani Development Plan be kept in a abeyance till the Geo- referenced forest maps of the area are updated by including the areas which can be defined as "forest" as per dictionary meaning and the narrow strip forests. This matter is also before National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench Delhi in Application No. 269 of 2013 in the matter of Haryali Welfare Society v/s Union of India and others.

(b) As per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, no non forestry activity is permitted on forest land without the prior permission of the Central Government. Further, to protect the Aravali range from environment degradation, the notification dated 7th May, 1992 issued by the Ministry prohibits certain activities without prior permission including location of new industries, expansion/ modification of industries, new mining operations, extension of mining leases, cutting of trees etc. Respective State Governments also take steps as per law to protect trees from unauthorized felling within the State including Aravali Hills.