

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2957
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
CONSERVATION OF BIO DIVERSITY
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

- (a) the details of the measures taken by the Government to conserve bio-diversity;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to enhance the measures to conserve bio-diversity in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Several measures have been undertaken to conserve the biological diversity of the country. Some important steps taken by the Government for conservation of biodiversity inter-alia include: survey and inventorisation of floral and faunal resources; assessment of forest cover to develop an accurate database for planning and monitoring; establishment of a Protected Area network of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation and Community Reserves; designating Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems; conservation of ecologically fragile areas such as mangroves, wetlands and coral reefs; implementing species-oriented conservation programmes such as Project Tiger and Project Elephant; ex-situ conservation through setting up of botanic gardens, zoos, gene banks; and enactment of the Biological Diversity Act in 2002, under which a National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards are set up, for implementing the provisions of the Act.

(b) to (d) Following the hosting of eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties (CoP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Hyderabad, the Prime Minister announced the decision to earmark a sum of US\$ 50 million during India's Presidency of the CoP-11 to strengthen the institutional mechanism, enhance the technical and human capabilities for biodiversity conservation in India and to support similar capacity building in other developing countries. Accordingly, in the 12th Five Year Plan Rs. 299.5 crore has been approved for Biodiversity Conservation Scheme, out of which Rs. 92 crores are for National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Rs. 50.00 crore are for Strengthening of State Biodiversity Boards and Rs. 50 crores are for preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers.