

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3003
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
CHECK ON FELLING OF TREES
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of rise in the unauthorised felling of trees along the roads and highways and in the forests and sanctuaries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government including formulation of any strategy to check the said incidents?

Answer

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

(a)& (b) No reports regarding large scale unauthorised felling of trees have come to notice. However, sporadic incidences of unauthorized felling of trees do take place and action is taken by the respective State/UT.

(c) Government of India provides Grants-in-aid to State/UT Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Intensification of Forest Management. The aim of the scheme is to supplement the efforts of the States for forest protection. Funds under the scheme are utilized for patrolling of the forests, establishment of field camps, building fire watch towers, creation and maintenance of fire lines, forest fire control, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening of forest infrastructure etc. States/UTs also implement forest protection measures with their own funds. Protection of forest is also undertaken by local communities under Joint Forest Management (JFM). Further, action as per law is taken against forest offenders.