

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2818

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009

TIMBER INDUSTRIES

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge potential for the timber industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are no timber industries in accordance with the quantum of wood available in the country due to the carelessness of the Government;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (e) : Timber industries can be established depending upon the availability of timber from forests which is determined by the yield prescribed in the approved working plans; upon import of timber; and on availability of timber from agro-forestry carried out in private lands. In terms of Press Note No. 9 (1998 Series) dated 27.8.98 issued by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, entrepreneurs who wish to obtain approval from the Government for setting up any wood based project should obtain prior clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests. All articles of wood except sandalwood are under Open General Licence (OGL) and can be freely imported.