

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3274  
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015  
CATEGORISATION OF BAMBOO  
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

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

(a) whether Bamboo is taxonomically recognised as a grass and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the categorisation of Bamboo as per the Indian Forest Act, 1927 is consistent with the above definition and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE. (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) Taxonomically, bamboo belongs to the grass family namely Poaceae, however, bamboo has been classified as "tree" under Section- 2 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. Taxonomists recognize bamboo as distinct from grasses due to their woody and arborescent i.e., tree like habit, and group these under sub-family Bambusoideae within the family Poaceae. Some taxonomists, in fact, prefer to place bamboo in a distinct family Bambusaceae. As such categorization of bamboo as "tree" under the Indian Forest Act 1927 is consistent with its unique taxonomic status.