GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2956
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
ACCESS FACILITY TO REMOTE FORESTS
Premachandran Shri N.K.

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

- (a) whether there is lack of infrastructure facilities for easy access to remote and inaccessible forest area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken for improved techniques of logging and extraction and implementing techniques of seasoning and preservation and the role likely to be played by people association in protection of forests?

Answer

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

- (a)& (b) Yes Sir, There is lack of infrastructure facilities in the remote and inaccessible forest areas. These include lack of proper roads, accommodation, means of transport and communication facilities. The State/Union Territory (UT) Governments provide funds for development of such infrastructure facilities under various State Plan/Non Plan schemes, though budgetary resources for this purpose are limited. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change provides funds under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) to State/UT Governments to improve the infrastructure facilities particularly for the field staff.
- (c) State Forest Departments, Forest Development Corporation and Forest Laborers' Cooperatives are reported to be employing improved techniques for logging and extraction. The Ministry's institutions like the Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), Bangaluru, Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun and Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangaluru, are carrying out research on seasoning and preservation of different wood species, developing technologies and providing technical advisory services to the stakeholders on these aspects.