

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3829
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
EROSION OF RESERVE FORESTS
Chakravarty Smt. Bijoya

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

- (a) whether some Reserve Forests/Sanctuaries located on river banks are devastated by river erosion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Poba Reserve Forest located in Assam is worst affected by river Brahmaputra;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to prevent these reserve forests and sanctuaries from river erosion and the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) River erosion does lead to damage of land areas, including Reserve Forests/ Sanctuaries. However, management and protection of Reserve Forests/Sanctuaries is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. This information pertaining to the extent of damage due to river erosion is not compiled in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

(c)& (d) As per the report received from the Assam Forest Department, around 15 hectares of Poba Reserve Forest under Dhemeji Forest Division in Assam is affected due to erosion by River Lali.

(e) To prevent damage due to river erosion, various measures like river bank stabilization, river training, soil and moisture conservation, works including construction of Gabion structures and vegetative measures etc., are taken up. The State/UT Governments take these measures under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of various Ministries and under State Plan allocations.