

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2630

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014

REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

Pradhan Shri Nagendra Kumar;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Thota Shri Narasimham

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

- (a) whether the Government has constituted a High Level Committee to review the various environmental related laws in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the terms of reference of the said Committee;
- (c) whether the Government has invited comments and suggestions from various stakeholders, experts and organizations in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with suggestions received so far and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the time by which the said review is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change vide Office Order No.22-15/ 2014-IA.III dated 29th August, 2014 has constituted High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri T.S.R. Subramanian, former Cabinet Secretary to Govt. of India to review various Acts administered by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, namely (i) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, (ii) Forests Conversation Act, 1980, (iii) Indian Forests Act, 1927, (iv) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, (v) Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and (vi) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 with following Terms of Reference.

- (i) To assess the status of implementation of each of the aforesaid Acts vis-À-vis the objectives;
- (ii) To examine and take into account various court orders and judicial pronouncements relating to these Acts;
- (iii) To recommend specific amendments needed in each of these Acts so as to bring them in line with current requirements to meet objectives; and
- (iv) To draft proposed amendments in each of the aforesaid Acts to give effect to the proposed recommendations.

(C), (d) & (e) Yes, Sir. Based on the comments received from Central Government, State Governments, Civil Societies etc. the report has been finalised and submitted to the Government and is now in the public domain.