

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4871
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014
MODERNISATION OF SAW MILLS
Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Chatham and Betapur Saw Mills and if so, the details thereof and the time since it is pending; and

(b) the action taken for modernisation of the said mills and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Based on the report received from Andaman and Nicobar Forest Department, the modernisation of Chatham and Betapur Saw Mills is an ongoing scheme of the Andaman and Nicobar Forest Department, as part of the 11th and 12th Five Year Plans and part of the Annual Plans thereof. The modernisation of the mills includes replacement of old machinery, streamlining of the production line to maximize the output of sawn timber. The following actions have been taken as part of the modernization of the mills:-

(i) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed on 6th June, 2012 between Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangalore and Andaman and Nicobar Environment and Forest Department and the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Mill Division, Chatham) for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), Tender documents suggesting the list of machinery to be replaced and execution of the work of modernisation.

(ii) Draft Tender Document for dismantling and removing of the old machineries and design, fabrication, supply, installation, testing and successful commissioning of modernisation of saw mills submitted by Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI) after carrying out the assessment of the requirements.

(iii) Successful training imparted to 21 technicians & workers, deputed for training on saw milling & saw doctoring, seasoning and wood preservation from Chatham and Betapur Saw Mills at Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangalore.

(iv) In addition to the above, Andaman and Nicobar Forest Department has already undertaken (i) Installation of Pressure Treatment Plants, (ii) Replacement of Low Tension (LT) Panels, (iii) Renovation of Gantries, (iv) Procurement of Diesel Generator (DG) sets, (v) Installation of Fire Fighting Equipment, (vi) Installation of Thickness Planner Machine, (vii) Installation of Multi Edger Machine and (viii) the Procurement of a Loader crane, etc.