

Central Approval for Diversion of Forest Land for Non-Forestry Purposes

***219. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :
PROF. NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR :**

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

(a) whether State Governments have to get prior approval of Union Government before utilising forest land for non-forestry purposes;

(b) if so, whether there have been cases where State Governments have not obtained the Union Government's permission in this regard; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to delegate powers to State Governments to grant exemptions from the purview of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use of forest land for developmental activities ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some instances of violation of the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have come to the notice of the Central Government.

(c) No, Sir.

Non-Disclosure of Bonus given to each Policyholder by LIC

***220. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India is not issuing in writing the details of the bonus given to each policy holder every year;

(b) if so, reasons thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to keep the policy holders informed of the bonus given to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). LIC announces the bonus rates accruing to policyholders after each valuation. The bonus rates so announced are given wide and extensive publicity through the media—Press, Radio, T.V., etc. for the information of the policyholders. In the context of the large and growing number of participating individual policyholders numbering now over 2 crores, LIC does not find it feasible, at present, to send individual written intimations about the details of the bonus given to each policyholder after every valuation.

Sale of Second-hand Wearable Woollen and Synthetic Clothes in Delhi

***221. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether sizeable stocks of imported second-hand wearable woollen and synthetic clothings are on sale in Delhi markets;

(b) whether the import of such clothing except in the form of rags is banned;

(c) if so, how these clothings found their way in the market without customs clearance; and

(d) the corrective action taken or proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Import of woollen and synthetic rags is permitted under open general licence to actual users in mutilated condition only. Import of second-hand wearable clothings is permitted only as relief supplies to approved agencies for free distribution to affected persons without distinction of caste, creed or race. Display and sale of second-hand garments, including imported ones, in Delhi have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(c) and (d). The imported second-hand clothings reportedly find their way in the market either through diversion of imports by charitable institutions or through clandestine movement through land borders, particularly Indo-Bangladesh border. The corrective action taken includes intensifying