

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5623**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019

**Forest Fires**

5623. DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:  
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the forest personnel in the country are ill-equipped to deal with the forest fires;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide them latest equipment and communication facilities?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) to (c) The responsibility of forest fire prevention and management lies primarily with the respective State/UT Governments. The State Governments have their own Forest Fire Management Plans.

The Ministry supports the efforts of State/Union Territory Governments in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance for various forest fire prevention and management measures such as creation and maintenance of fire lines in forest areas, engagement of fire watchers, creation of water storage structures in forest areas, strengthening of forest infrastructure, procurement of firefighting equipment, soil and moisture conservation works in high risk areas, awareness creation, incentivizing villages/communities for protection against forest fire etc. under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme. The Ministry has also formulated National Action Plan on Forest Fire and circulated to all State/UT Governments for taking appropriate action for effective prevention and management of forest fire.

Forest Survey of India has been made responsible to keep constant vigil on forest fire across the country and send forest fire alerts on registered mobile numbers in the States. Till date around 50,000 users have been registered to receive the fire alerts from Forest Survey of India.

\*\*\*\*\*