

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 06.12.2010
ANSWERED ON
BENEFITS OF REDD PLUS INITIATIVE .

375

SHRI THOMAS SANGMA

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

- (a) whether the United States of America has recently shown keen interest in supporting the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation REDD-Plus initiative in India, particularly in the North-Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the net socio-economic benefits to the country; and;
- (c) the details of the ways in which an internationally supported REDD-Plus project would alter the existing forest tenure including the rights and obligations of the local tenants, other local individuals, local communities and the local and State Governments in any one of the potential project States in the North-Eastern Region?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a), (b) & (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO STARRED PARLIAMENT QUESTION NO. 375 RAISED BY SHRI THOMAS SANGMA DUE FOR ANSWER ON 06.12. 2010 IN RAJYA SABHA.

As a follow up to the Joint Statement between USA and India in 2009 on enhancing cooperation on energy security, energy efficiency, clean energy, and climate change, the United States has recently proposed a Partnership Agreement for the 'Sustainable Forests and Climate Adaptation Project'. This project aims to promote sustainable forestry, forest carbon accounting, and climate adaptation. The project shall result in (1) enhancing carbon stock through increased carbon sequestration and facilitate participation in International REDD+ activities and international carbon markets and (2) Improve capacity of people to adapt to climate risks.

The details of the project have not been finalized yet. The geographic areas of the project have also not been identified so far and will be decided mutually by the Government and USAID. As the project would be a capacity building/demonstration project it shall not alter the existing forest tenure including the rights and obligations of the local tenants, other local individuals, local communities and the local and State Governments in areas where the project would be executed.