GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1323
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2021

Illegal felling of trees in Jammu and Kashmir

1323. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

(a) whether incidents of illegal felling of trees in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir have increased in the last one year;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the action taken by Government in this regard and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a),(b) &(c) No, Sir. As per the report received from Government of Jammu & Kashmir, total 2199 cases of illegal felling of trees were registered in 2020-21. Further, during the current year 1166 cases have been registered till October 2021. Suitable action is being taken by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir for reducing illegal felling of the trees.

Further, protection and management of trees is primarily the responsibility of State /Union Territory Governments. There are strong legal frameworks for protection and management of tree resources of the country which include the National Forest Policy,1988, Indian Forest Act, 1927, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and State Forest Acts/State Specific Tree Preservation Acts and Rules, etc. The State /UT Governments take appropriate action in accordance with the provisions made under these acts/ rules for regulating felling of trees.

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