

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1341
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2018

Mapping of Forest

1341. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the recent directive of the Shimla High Court for mapping of forest and tagging of trees with Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) to check deforestation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce similar scheme for other forested regions particularly in the vulnerable areas where illegal cutting and poaching is rampant; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps proposed for checking deforestation in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) & (b) As per the information received from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Himachal Pradesh, in pursuance of the directive of the Hon'ble High Court of Shimla, Government of Himachal Pradesh has initiated the process to enumerate and geo-reference all trees in the Shimla Municipal Corporation limits, and more than two lakh tree have already been enumerated. The State Council for Science and Technology of Government of Himachal Pradesh has also initiated the process to map the forests under Shimla Municipal Corporation limits using time series satellite imageries.
- (c) & (d) The Government has no such proposal to introduce similar scheme for other forested regions particularly in the vulnerable areas where illegal cutting and poaching is rampant. The primary responsibility for protection and conservation of forests including checking of deforestation in the country lies with the respective State and Union Territory Governments. This Ministry supports the efforts of State/UT Governments in this regard by providing technical and financial assistance.
