

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3502**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2018**

**Protection and Conservation of Forests**

3502. SHRI M. CHANDRAKASI:

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

- (a) the existing norms for manpower, particularly forest ranger authorization for the protection and conservation of different types of forests in the country;
- (b) the details of protective equipment provided to forest department officials in the discharge of their duties;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide more arms to enable forest rangers to fight against criminals and poachers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) There is no standard or uniform norm across the States on manpower deployment, particularly forest ranger authorization for the protection and conservation of different types of forests in the country. States/UTs deploy field staff based on available manpower and level of pressure on particular range/beat/forests.
- (b) For protection and conservation of forests, the frontline forest staff are provided with field uniform including shoes, motorcycles, arms, anti poaching kit, fire fighting kit, inventory equipment etc. However, these vary from State to State and also type of responsibility the particular staff has been assigned.
- (c) to (e) There is no special scheme in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to provide more arms to enable forest rangers to fight against criminals and poachers. States/UTs provide arms for the staff under various schemes of MoEF&CC and their State-specific Schemes, subject to requirement and availability of fund.

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