

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3592**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2018

**Assessment of Forests**

3592. SHRI M.B. RAJESH:

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

- (a) whether forests are recognized as bio-diverse food and nutrition producing habitats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with provisions for assessment of forests as food and nutrition sources when diverted for non-forest purposes including monoculture plantations;
- (c) whether the Government has any data base on the food habits of the forest communities and on the nature and extent of their dependence on forests; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Yes, Madam. Forests are recognized as bio-diverse food and nutrition producing habitats.
- (b) While submitting proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the user agencies and forest departments submit detailed study on flora and fauna. Based on these studies, Biodiversity/Wildlife Management Plans are also prepared
- (c) & (d) No such information is maintained in the Ministry.

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