

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6623
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2018

Smuggling of Red Sanders

6623. SHRI J.C. DIVAKAR REDDY:
SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has seized all the owners of illicit transport vehicles in connection with Red Sander smuggling and other forest produce offence cases registered as per Andhra Pradesh Forest Act, 1967 in Andhra Pradesh particularly in the forest areas of Seshachalam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and loss estimated for Government from such smuggling; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not taking any action on the red sanders smugglers?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As per information received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, all the vehicles involved in smuggling of red sanders wood which are caught are seized as per Andhra Pradesh Forest Act, 1967.
- (b) & (c) The details of vehicles & red sanders wood seized and number of persons arrested in the last three years in the offence cases involving red sanders smuggling are as follows:-

Year	Number of Cases	Red Sanders wood seized (in Metric Tons)	Number of vehicles seized	Number of persons arrested
2015-16	753	355.658	480	2587
2016-17	911	487.632	705	3344
2017-18	876	360.338	680	2743
Total	2540	1203.628	1865	8674

The quantity of 1203.628 Metric Tons red sanders seized in the last three years, is valued at Rs. 4753.12 lakhs based on offence forest schedule of rates.
