

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1258**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023

**Denotification of Forest Land**

1258. SHRI B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA:

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

- (a) the steps being taken to denotify the forest land cultivated along the valley of Sharavathi Hydro Power Project by the effected families;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to seek any report from State Government of Karnataka related to the Sharavathi Hydro Power Project effected families;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time line to denotify the forest land for cultivation by the displaced families of Sharavathi Hydro Power Project?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) to (d) The Government of Karnataka vide letter dated 23.03.2023 has submitted a proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government for de-reservation of 9129.00 acres of forest land released during the period from 1958 to 1969 for the purpose of rehabilitation of affected families of Sharavathi Valley Hydro Electric Project.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 13.11.2000 in I.A. No. 2 in W. P. No. 337/1995 has directed that ".... pending further orders, no dereservation of forests/ sanctuaries/ national parks shall be effected".

Accordingly, the Ministry vide letter dated 28.04.2023 has requested the Government of Karnataka to take appropriate action as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 13.11.2000.

The State Govt. of Karnataka is required to seek the approval of Hon'ble Supreme Court and thereafter submit the proposal for prior approval of the central govt. for dereservation of forest land under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

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