

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 22
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

Encroachment in Forest Areas

22. SMT. MANJU SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any land demarcation by identifying the forest area in view of conserving environment in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of encroachment in forest area at many places in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details of the measures taken by the Government to prevent such encroachment?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) “Land” being a State subject, the identification, survey and demarcation of the various types of land including forest land is done by the concerned State Government/UT Administration.
- (b)&(c) The details of encroachment in forest area are maintained by the respective State Government/UT Administration and the report in this regard is submitted to the Ministry.

The Protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. To prevent the encroachment, appropriate legal provisions are there in the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Local Forest Acts/Rules. Further, in order to prevent encroachments, various measures are taken by the State Forest Departments, which include survey and demarcation of forest areas, fixing of pillars along forest boundary and regular patrolling by field staff. The Joint Forest Management Committees have also been established at the village levels involving the local communities for protection, conservation and management of the forests.
