

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3294
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

Study on Western Ghats

3294. SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted or proposed to conduct a study on retention capacity of the Western Ghats; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b) In order to protect the fragile ecosystem as well as the rich biodiversity of the Western Ghats regions and by considering its ecological significance, this Ministry has re-published the draft notification on 31.07.2024 related to the Ecologically Sensitive Area of Western Ghats with an area of 56,825.7 sq. km. spread across six States, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

In order to address the issues raised by the respective State Governments, a Committee has been constituted by the Ministry to examine the suggestions of all the State Governments and stakeholders in a holistic manner, keeping in view the conservation aspects of the fragile and pristine ecosystem, and the rights, privileges, needs and developmental aspirations of the region. The suggestions of the State Governments are deliberated by the Committee on merits, before finalization of the draft notification.
