GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2759 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

Pulpwood Plantations by Mysore Paper Mills Ltd.

2759. SHRI B Y RAGHAVENDRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal for approval of Management Plan for managing pulpwood plantations raised by Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. in forest area leased to the company from Karnataka State Government, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of loss of revenue to Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., due to not approving the Management plan;
- (c) if so, whether the management plan has been approved by the Government, if so, the details in this regard, if not, the specific reasons for its rejection or delay; and
- (d) the steps proposed by the Government to resolve this issue and to ensure that Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. can manage and utilise the pulpwood plantations in the leased forest area?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) A Management Plan for managing pulpwood plantations raised by Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. for the period 2022-23 to 2028-29 was submitted by State Government of the Karnataka, vide letter dated 26.08.2024, to the Regional Office (Southern Zone), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change for approval.

On receipt of the proposal, the Regional Office (Southern Zone), vide letter dated 5.11.2024, requested the State Government of Karnataka to take necessary approval of the Central Government for renewal of lease under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 prior to said management plan. The proposal for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose/grant the lease is processed online through PARIVESH (Pro Active a Responsive facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Single window Hub) portal. As per the information available on the said portal, the Central Government has not received any proposal for ex-post facto renewal of lease of forest land given to the Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. (MPM) Bhadravathi from the Government of Karnataka. As of now, the Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. (MPM) is required to submit the proposal on PARIVESH portal.

The State Government of Karnataka has also informed that harvest of plantation is not possible on account of non-approval of the management plan.