

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3566
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

Tree Species Exempted from Felling

3566. SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government maintains a record of tree species exempted from felling permission across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the list of species that can be legally felled without prior approval under simplified procedures, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines or advisory to States for preparing such exemption lists while balancing ecological concerns; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the exemption status of ecologically significant species, such as neem, which have been included in the exempted lists by certain States?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) The felling of trees grown on non-forest/ private lands are governed by State/ UT specific Acts and Rules. The list of tree species which are exempted from the purview of obtaining felling permission is maintained by the respective State/ UT.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued guidelines and advisories to States/ UTs for exempting agroforestry tree species grown on non-forest/ private lands from the requirement of felling permits.

In June 2025, the Ministry has also issued Model Rules for 'Felling of Trees in Agricultural Land' for consideration by States and Union Territories, with the objective of encouraging and promoting agroforestry amongst farmers.
