

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 365
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

Permission for Forest Produce

365. SHRI SUDHAKAR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in some States including Madhya Pradesh, local forest dwellers are issued permissions/permits for the collection, storage and sale of Mahua, Palash (Flame of the Forest) and other medicinal forest produce;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to introduce a similar system in Bihar for issuing permits to tribal communities for the collection, processing and sale of Mahua, Palash and other traditional and medicinal forest produce;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the quantity of Mahua, Palash and other traditional and medicinal forest produce generated in Bihar, particularly in Kaimur district and the number of permits issued in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) The right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of all minor forest produce traditionally collected by forest dwellers is recognized as per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Further, in different States and UTs the Joint Forest Management Committees are allowed to collect Non Timber Forest produces.

(b) to (d) As per the information provided by Government of Bihar, the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bihar vide its resolution No. 3698 dated 23-10-2003 has delegated the power to identify, collect, store, process and sell minor forest produce to the three tier local bodies namely Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad. The collection of Non Timber Forest produces from forest areas in Bihar is undertaken through Joint Forest Management Committees as per approved working plan. Further, the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bihar vide its resolution No. 332 dated 28-01-2013 has appointed Bihar Vaniki Vikas Nigam Limited as the agent of Panchayats for collection, storage and sale of kendu leaves.

As per the information provided by Government of Bihar, the quantity of Kendu Leaves collected are as given below:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Kendu leaves collection (in number of standard bags)
1.	2023-24	47,686
2.	2024-25	49,470
3.	2025-26	39,357
