

forest land and its assignment cannot be done without prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Kerala Forest Department has reported that 10836.7147 ha. of forest land has been given on lease to 8749 persons.

The Government of Kerala has appointed a Committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary with the Revenue Secretary and Forest Secretary as members to oversee the eviction of all encroachers from the area. The State Government has also appointed one man Commission (Additional Chief Secretary to State Government) to go into all the aspects of the illegal occupation and to ascertain if there are any lapses on the part of the Government Officials.

### **Community forest management in Chhattisgarh**

†2536. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has provided any loan to the Chhattisgarh Government under the Community Forest Management Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the area to be included, district-wise, under this programme; and

(c) the target fixed to complete the above work?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### **Impact of delayed Environmental Clearance**

2537. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Central and State level projects of public importance are pending for approval of the department of Environment and Forests because of strict rules of this department;

(b) if so, the details of such projects; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.