

Statement*State-wise details of forest villages and the funds released*

Sl.No .	State No.	of forest villages	Total Sanctioned Cost of the project (Rs. in Crores)	Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Assam	373	44.25	40.57
2.	Chhattisgarh	343	56.05	43.57
3.	Gujarat	199	26.42	19.79
4.	Madhya Pradesh	679	103.86	61.90
5.	West Bengal	170	28.03	21.04
6.	Mizoram	27	4.05	2.02
7.	Jharkhand	21	2.59	1.29
8.	Orissa	20	2.90	1.57
TOTAL		1832	268.15	191.75

World Bank Report on opportunities for people dependant on Forests

3722. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank report has pointed out that India is unlocking opportunities for forest- dependent-people with greater community control over forest management, income from forests could rise from estimated \$222 million in 2004 to approx. \$2 billion per annum in 2020;

(b) whether reports indicate that community based joint forest management programme that covers 27% of the national forest areas across the country, encompassing the 85000 village communities, offers vast potential for poverty reduction and rural economic growth;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered this report; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This is the view expressed in the World Bank report.

(c) and (d) The National Forest Policy 1988 already recognizes people's participation in forestry as one of the main ingredients for protection and development of forests. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has already issued guidelines in June 1990 to States and Union Territories to involve local village communities in protection, management and development of forests on the principle of "care and share" within a broad framework of Joint Forest Management (JFM). The JFM programme is presently being implemented in 28 States with involvement of 99,868 JFM committees covering an area of approximately 21.44 million hectares as on 31.3.2005. The Ministry is also implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan to further strengthen and operationalise JFM for rehabilitation of degraded forests and adjoining areas. The Scheme is being implemented through a two tier decentralized setup of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. As on 31.3.2006, 715 FDA projects have been operationalized in 28 States to treat a total project area of 9.24 lakh hectares through 23,750 JFMCs.'

Classification of industrial and construction projects

3723. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government under environmental impact assessment codifications, classified various industrial and construction projects into A/B and B categories;

(b) if so, the scientific and technical basis for this classification;

(c) whether provisions have been made for the relaxation of public hearing procedure under the said notification, if so, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether the time limit for holding the public hearing has been reduced from 210 days to 60-90 days, if so, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether Government have come across any misuse of the said guidelines by State Governments and local authorities when the situation is not conducive to them; and

(f) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to rectify this?