

1	2	3	4
26.	Uttar Pradesh	365	1,064.95
27.	West Bengal	28	279.63
28.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	4	0.42
29.	Chandigarh	5	0.31
30.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	16	4.89
31.	Daman and Diu	1	3.95
32.	Delhi	3	16.74
33.	Lakshadweep	0	0
34.	Puducherry	0	0
TOTAL		5,114	97,302.15

\*: Excluding 55,339.95 ha. area covered under cultivation and habitation which was closed under the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900. Stage-II approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for its delisting from the list of forest areas was accorded during 2009.

Note: The statement does not include information for Jammu and Kashmir as the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 do not extend to Jammu and Kashmir.

#### **Provisioning of fire-works of forest guards**

4979. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poachers and smugglers arrested and punished as per the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended in 2006, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the forest guards are not provided with any fire arms and they are not daring enough to arrest the poachers who operates in big group and carry the most sophisticated fire arms with them; and

(c) whether Government will consider to engage armed forces or to supply fire arms to forest guards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The enforcement of the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 including detection of wildlife offences, and arrest and prosecution of wildlife offenders is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/Union Territory Government. The details of poachers and smuggler arrested, prosecuted, and punished by the State Governments are not collated in the Ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The enforcement of law, including forest and wild life laws, is the responsibility of the concerned State/Union Territory Governments. The Ministry provides financial assistance to the State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' to undertake works as per the Annual Plans of Operation submitted by them. Purchase of arms and ammunition for the field staff, in addition to other items, is supported under the abovementioned schemes, as and when such demands are received from the State/Union Territory Governments. At present, there is no proposal with the Ministry to engage armed forces for this purpose.

#### **Environmental clearance for excavation of mines in Andhra Pradesh**

4980. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and current status of the request of Andhra Pradesh Government for diversion of 16.00 hectares of forest land at Gopavaram reserve forest in Kadapa Division for excavation of Pedda Polu Palli mines;

(b) the main hurdles in according forest related clearance; and

(c) by when the clearance shall be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) (a) to (c) In consideration of a proposal received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Ministry of Environment and Forests vide its letter dated 07.12.2010 has already accorded in-principle approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 16.00 hectares of forest land in Gopavaram Reserve Forest of Kadapa Division for excavation of Pedda Polu Palli distributary and minors.

#### **Bio-safety violations by Monsanto**

4981. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka and the Genetic Engineering