

co-existence between wildlife and human activity with due recognition of the livelihood; developmental, social and cultural rights of the local people.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### **Depletion of Natural resources in Western Ghats**

†\*232. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received any information regarding depletion of natural resources of forests of western Ghats region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any action to obtain factual information in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not received any information regarding depletion of natural resources of forests of Western Ghats region. As per India State of Forest Report, 2011 published by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, the forest cover of states lying in the Western Ghats region has increased by 56 km<sup>2</sup> as compared to India State of Forest Report, 2009. The details of the status of forest cover in States constituting Western Ghats as per India State of Forest Report 2009 and 2011 are given in Statement. (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Forest Survey of India has been mapping and assessing the country's forest cover biennially which includes the Western Ghats region also.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement***'Depletion of Natural Resources in Western Ghats'*

*Status of Forest Cover in States constituting Western Ghats  
as per India State of Forest Report 2009 and 2011.*

State	Forest Cover (in sq. km)		Change	Reasons for Change
	2009 Assessment	2011 Assessment		
Maharashtra	50650	50646	-4	There is a decrease of 3 sq. km in very dense forest, 19 sq.km in moderately dense forest and an increase of 18 sq.km in open forest.
Goa	2212	2219	7	Increase in forest cover in the state is due to increase of mangrove forest and TOF.
Karnataka	36190	36194	4	There has been an increase of six sq. km in open forest and a decrease of 2 sq.km in moderately dense forest
Tamil Nadu	23551	23625	74	Regeneration in forest areas and extensive plantation activities in and outside forests.
Kerala	17324	17300	-24	Decrease in forest cover in the state is due to rotational felling of <i>Eucalyptus</i> , <i>Teak</i> , <i>Acacia mangium</i> , <i>rubber</i> and shade bearing trees in the gardens.
Gujarat	14620	14619	-1	Decrease is due to private felling in the TOF areas.
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	211	211	0	There is zero change.