

Reduction in green bonus

†777. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reduced the green bonus that is given to the States;
- (b) if so, the norms in accordance with which the green bonus given to the States has been reduced; and
- (c) whether reducing the green bonus will not adversely affect the environment and forest of the States and if not, the details of the manner in which it will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) As of now, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has no scheme for grant of green bonus.

Bamboo as non-timber forest produce

778. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal to declare Bamboo a grass or to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927 for changing Bamboo from tree to grass and notifying it as non-timber forest produce, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, what measures are being taken for the preservation and monitoring of Bamboo, State-wise in the country and the funds released thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering the creation of Bamboo Board for monitoring and preserving bamboo habitat; and
- (d) if so, the details of the timeline and appointment for the creation of such a board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has received some references regarding amendment to Indian Forest Act, 1927 to remove bamboo from the definition of tree to facilitate its transit. Bamboo is largely found in the forest areas. As per the India State of Forest Report, 2011 bamboo bearing forest areas is 13.9 million

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.