

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 26.07.2010
ANSWERED ON
VISION DOCUMENT TO INCREASE FOREST AREA .

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Dr. Janardhan Waghmare

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the forest area in the country has been reduced to a great extent;
- (b) if so, what efforts are being made to increase the forest area;
- (c) whether Government has prepared any vision document in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT & FOREST

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. According to the India State of Forest Report 2009, based upon the biennial assessment by Forest Survey of India, there is an increase in the forest cover of the country from 690171 square km in 2005 to 690899 square km in 2007.
- (c) & (d) A draft Mission document for the National Mission for a Green India has been prepared by the Ministry which has been circulated to various stakeholders in the country. This document envisages doubling the area to be taken up for afforestation /eco-restoration in India in the next 10 years, enhance the resilience of forests/ecosystem being treated under the Mission and increase the Green House Gases (GHG) removals by India's forests to 6.35% of India's annual total GHG emission by the year 2020.