

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 707
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018

Action plan for increasing forest cover

707. MS. SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total forest cover, in percentage, at present in the country;
- (b) whether Government has drawn any action plan to increase this forest cover;
- (c) if so, the nature of such action plan; and
- (d) if not, whether Government is considering to do so?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). As per the latest report i.e. ISFR- 2017, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,02,088 square kilometers which is 24.39% of the geographical area of the country.
- (b) To further increase the forest cover in the country, afforestation programmes are being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM) being implemented by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes/funding sources such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Compensatory Afforestation Fund.
- (c) & (d) The Green India Mission provides for preparation of action plan and implementation for Greening India prepared by different States undertaking afforestation and allied activities.
