GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1482
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021

National afforestation programmes

1482. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

(a) the details of budgetary allocations and expenditure on national afforestation programme to improve the forest cover from 2014-15 to 2020-21, year-wise;
(b) whether national afforestation programmes has improved the forest cover in India; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) The year wise details of budgetary allocations and expenditure on National Afforestation Programme (NAP) to improve the forest cover from 2014-15 to 2020-21, is as under:

(Amount in Rupees in crore)

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Budget Allocated	243.78	100.00	60.00	80.00	176.94*	193.63*	160.00*
Expenditure	243.78	94.16	59.35	80.00	176.73*	193.63*	158.04*

**Combined allocation and expenditure for Green India Mission-National Afforestation Programme. No separate funds were earmarked for NAP.*

(b)&(c) National Afforestation Programme(NAP) has been the flagship afforestation scheme of the Ministry, implemented on pan India basis for afforestation in identified degraded forest areas with people's participation and decentralised forest governance. NAP, alongwith other afforestation schemes, has been contributing in restoration of degraded forest areas in the country. This has helped in stabilization and increase in the extent of forest cover, which is evident from the India State of Forest Report (ISFR)published by Forest Survey of India (FSI).The latest India State of Forest Report (ISFR 2019) revealed that the total forest and tree cover of the country is 8,07,276 square kilometres (which is 24.56 percent of the geographical area of the country) compared to 7,94,245 sq km (24.16 percent) in ISFR 2015. This is an increase of 13,031 sq km of forest and tree cover of the country. The ISFRs also pointed out that the positive change could be attributed to conservation measures or management interventions such as afforestation activities, participation of local people for better protection in plantation areas as well as in traditional forest areas, expansion of trees outside forests, tree plantation drives etc.

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