

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -1992
ANSWERED ON -03/08/2022

DATA OF TREES CUT ALONG ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

1992. SHRI NARESH BANSAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large number of trees along the existing roads and highways had to be cut during the process of widening of roads, specially in Uttarakhand, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of trees cut for the construction of Delhi -Dehradun express highway from Ganeshpur to Dehradun in Rajaji National Park, Mohand jungle;
- (c) action taken by NHAI on replantation along this highway, details of re-plantation projects of trees on Rajaji National Park highway; and
- (d) the details of plantation projects along the highways completed by March, 2021?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) Development of National Highways (NHs) involves clearing Right of Way (RoW) acquired by the Ministry. It is always ensured that the bare minimum tree felling is carried out for widening of existing NHs.
- (b) A total 7,747 trees and 3,258 saplings have been cut down in Shivalik forest division for Delhi-Dehradun expressway project from Ganeshpur to Dehradun. None of these trees were within the boundary of Rajaji National Park.
- (c) About 1.76 lakh trees are to be planted as per Compensatory Afforestation scheme prepared by Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Forest Departments. An amount of Rs. 844.13 Lakhs have been deposited by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Forest Departments towards Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value. Apart from above, NHAI has trans-located 155 trees.
- (d) 55.10 lakh plants have been planted in 94 projects, completed by March 2021.
