

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 979
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

Shifting of trees coming in the way of Green field National Highways

979. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

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

- (a) whether a large number of trees are uprooted which come in the way of widening of State and National Highways or other development projects;
- (b) if so, the reasons why machines for digging and transplanting such trees are not used when such a technology is available;
- (c) the details of the cost of such machines and whether there is any proposal to buy and supply such machines to companies making highways; and
- (d) whether there is any policy for transplantation of trees coming in the way of highways or other development projects?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) Permission for felling of trees is accorded by the concerned State/UT Government authorities as per the State Specific Acts, Rules, Guidelines and the orders of Hon'ble courts. However, the permission for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose is accorded with a condition that the minimum number of trees should be felled. The relocation/transplantation of trees is done by the State Government authorities keeping in view the prevalent climatic and edaphic factors as well as the physiological condition of the trees.
- (c) Ministry has not received any proposal to buy and supply machines for digging and transplanting the uprooted trees.
- (d) The transplantation/relocation of trees is an evolving technique which is relatively new to the Country. The identification of trees fit for translocation is done by the field officers depending upon the ground situation and various climatic, edaphic and physiological conditions.
