

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1797
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Additional land requirements for decarbonisation goals

1797. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) the estimated amount of additional land requirements for renewable power generation and forest carbon sinks; and
- (b) whether Government has prepared a national land-use plan to ensure the optimal utilisation of land for the dual goals of growth and decarbonisation and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) India's commitment towards global collective climate action is being met through different programmes and schemes of the Government of India and at this stage it does not call for preparation of national land-use plan specific to India's committed climate action.

As per the information from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, most of the renewable energy projects in the country are being setup by the private sector developers selected through a transparent bidding process. Around four acres of land is required on an average for setting up one megawatt (MW) of solar/ wind power plant.

India is undertaking several significant actions in the forest sector. The National Forest Policy (1988) aims at bringing 33% of the country's geographical area under forest and tree cover. To achieve this goal, India has been actively pursuing a number of strategies and programmes from the National to local levels. The National Afforestation Programme (NAP) is being implemented for afforestation of degraded forest lands. National Mission for a Green India (GIM) is one of the national missions under the National Action Plan for Climate Change that is being implemented to protect, restore and enhance forest cover in India. The mission goals include, inter-alia, to improve forest/tree cover by 5 million ha and improve the quality of forest/tree cover in another 5 million ha. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) is one of the programmes to promote afforestation, forest regeneration and ensure maintenance of ecosystem services. The Nagar Van Yojana (NVY) is being implemented to create 400 'Nagar Vans' and 200 Nagar Vatikas in the vicinity of urban areas under the National Fund of CAMPA. The School Nursery Yojana (SNY) aims at

creating awareness and inculcating a habit of caring for nature, and is to be implemented for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25. The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) aims at creating and upgrading green spaces, parks and recreation centres in Mission cities.

Tree plantation, being a multi-departmental, multi-agency activity, is also being taken up in cross sectoral manner under various programmes/funding sources of other Ministries and also through State Plans.
