

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 677
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

Compensatory Afforestation under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

677. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:
SMT. SULATA DEO:
SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Compensatory Afforestation (CA) is required on degraded notified or unclassified forest land, twice the extent of the diverted forest area. Exclusively for projects carried out by Central Government Agencies or Central Public Sector Undertakings;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the mentioned provision could be extended to include State PSUs and State Government Agencies?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c) The dispensation to carry out Compensatory Afforestation (CA) on degraded forest land double the extent of the forest land diverted is extended vide rule 13 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 on case to case basis to the Central Government / Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) projects subject to the condition that the project does not involve acquisition of any non-forest land and State Government or Union Territory Administration certifies the unavailability of suitable non forest land for compensatory afforestation. The same dispensation is also extended to the State PSUs for captive coal blocks on case to case basis. The other dispensations regarding raising compensatory afforestation on degraded notified, unclassified forest, revenue forest land, wastelands etc. which is extended to Central government agencies/PSUs are also applicable to State government agencies/PSUs as per aforementioned Rules.
